

ヴァル ブラの 晩ご飯

IV

パピヨット

～イノシシとイノシシモドキの包み焼き～



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Valhalla no Bangohan Volume 4 Interlude

Interlude 1 – The boar and the starting hors d'oeuvre

— This is, an incidence that happen when I first came to the building of those who are killed in action, 'Valhalla'.

This is also the memory of the day where I left my parent house and begin my first step as a 'food ingredient' which is necessary to be cherished.

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On a certain clear day before dawn. On the way toward the workplace. There was a small boar riding on the rumbling wagon—

Ahem... it seemed like I was talking about someone else but, of course that boar was me.

"Sigh..."

There was a deep sigh that came from the seat of the coachman on the shaking wagon. Beside of me was an old man who was working as the coachman, he looked toward me with a weary face and while showing a bitter smile, he told me.

"Are you really that depressed? Um... Saehrimnir –kun."

"Yes, I am... I was pretty excited when I departed from the forest but the moment when I saw 'Gladshheim', I starting to feel so nervous and insecurity until my body started to tremble. That is because starting from now—I had to die there every night."

That right—I as the brown boar, 'Saehrimnir' was invited to the awe-inspiring

grand palace, 'Gladheim' that the Gods were living.

By the pretext, the palace was made out of gold—.

I tried to think of a simile for it when I heard that but it was understandable even if I looked at it from a distance in my current position. That was definitely gold. Even though the eastern sky just started to turn white, the appearance of it sparkling that would only cause you to say that it was majestic.

Well, among the world above the sky, 'Asgard', it seemed that there was plan for this palace to fight for the 1st and 2nd so it was something expected.

By the way, my workplace was the fifth building inside of 'Gladheim' and its name was 'Valhalla'. Starting from today, I'd be working as a 'food ingredient' there, this was a role that was given to me by the chief god, Odin-sama.

"Argh~ that is something expected. Even if I had the ability to 'revive no matter how many time I die', I will not work as a food ingredient at all. ...but, aren't you the one who wanted to work as a food ingredient on your own?"

"That is true but... Ah, um And-san. There is something that I want to ask you but I heard that the nine Valkyrie sisters will be working in 'Valhalla', is it true?"

"Hey, Saehrimnir-kun, you do know that I will be able to tell that you have an ulterior motive if you ask in such a direct manner? I see, so the reason that caused you to come to 'Valhalla' even though you aware that you will die, is all because of the Valkyrie is it."

"Argh, am... am I that obvious? Yup, I need to practice on beating the bush from now on else... does that mean that's true?"

"It's true. Just now... no, you can see it slightly now. Look there, you can see that the building for goddess is there right? There is a dorm that the Valkyrie lived inside. At night, they will depart from there and headed to my 'Valhalla Kitchen'."

After And-san said that, he let out a prideful laugh while showing a thumb up in his pure white cook uniform.

In fact, And-san was the coachmen of the wagon that I was riding now but his real job was a cook. Moreover, he was the chef head in charge of the God

realm, 'Asgard' biggest – no, perhaps the 'Nine World' biggest kitchen.

“‘Valhalla Kitchen’ is it... that is amazing, And-san. A normal human can never work as the chef head in the world scale large kitchen.”

“Ha ha ha! Do continue in your praise to me! But aren't you amazing yourselves? Freya-sama was the one who scouted me but you were given the order directly from Odin-sama. Well, you were given the role as a food ingredient but as a food ingredient aren't that something supreme? That's why I am showing you my biggest respect by transporting you by my own hand.”

“I see. So this is what they meant by directly from the farm since the Chef Head is delivering it personally.”

“Oh, what a splendid thing you said. Yup~, at first I was only shocked that you were able to talk but I was amazed that you were able to dress up. I have a feeling that we will have a good relationship from now on, isn't that right, Saehrimnir-kun.”

“Is that the truth? I am delighted, if that is the case, it fine for you to call me Sei, Chef Head.”

“We're here! I will depend on you from now on, Sei-kun.”

With this, just when we had close the gap in our heart by a step, the wagon had finally arrived at 'Gladshheim'.

After we passed through the large door that was made out of gold, the interior of it was all covered in the golden color. While looking at the uniqueness style that there was a few palaces inside of this single large palace, the wagon headed deeper inside of it in a steady way.

When the new born morning sun started to dye the world—the trip that took a few day after I left my parent house had finally ended.

In front of me, I saw a palace that was built in a more dignified manner than the other palaces that we had pass through. It was far from gorgeous but this boorish palace that was like a man was...

“Welcome, Sei-kun! To the building for those who was killed in action, 'Valhalla'.”

After hearing the Chef Head voice, there was a large amount of human that came out from the palace and form a neat line. All of them were in the cook uniform. That meant... woah, everyone here were my senior staffs!

“Everyone, sorry for disturbing you so early in the morning. Then, Sei-kun, why don’t you start from a simple self-introduction.”

“Yes! Um... Every, everyone-nice-to-me-you, I-come-from ‘the forest of Idavoll’. I-liked-to-read-but-I-like-elephant-more.”

“Hey, Sei-san, you are being too nervous! Didn’t you just talk in a more natural manner up until now!”

“I’m sorry, this is the first time that I am in front of such a big crowd...”

“You do know that you are going to be eaten by two hundred thousand people right? This is much lesser when compare to that.”

That’s right. Okay~ I need to calm myself down here...

Then, in that moment when I put my spirit into it again.

“I’m sorry! We were late!”

The beautiful voice that was clear yet impatience can be heard from the sky all of a sudden.

“Chef Head! There are girls coming from the sky!”

“Ah, they are the Valkyries. The one in the blue chest plate is Brynhildr-sama.”

“Eh! That is Brynhildr-sama!?”

After they descended, they landed on the ground while scattering the pure white feather storm.

“We had finally arrived. Thank you for your hard work.”

While the wings that were made out of magic dispersed, the faint golden haired girl let go of the baby goat that she was carrying with both of hand.

Ah... there was no mistake that this noble yet ephemeral beauty was Brynhildr-sama.

After the day that I saw her once when she visited my parent house in the

forest, this lovely Valkyrie had gotten a hold of my heart without letting it go—

“Oh, welcome. It seems that in the end, Brynhildr-sama was the one that was in charge of inviting the baby goat.”

“Yes! Since this is something important for ‘Valhalla’ from now on, as the eldest sister, I bear the responsibility to take up this task. I beg your pardon, did I caused you to wait for me by any chance?”

“No at all! We had just arrived ourselves also. Isn’t that right, Sei-kun?”

“Yeeees, that right! Even if that is not truth, for your sake, I am willing to wait for you for another ten or hundred year!”

“Ah... you are the boar from the Idavoll forest! It’s been a long time, um...”

“It’s Saehrimnir! But my name is a bit long so please feel free to call me pig!”

“Eh!? Pig... is it?”

“Yes! You don’t have to be so reserved at all!”

“Um... that... I’m sorry, if it’s possible, I would like to call you with another name...”

She... she is so kind! I thought that it would be nice if I was scolded by such a beauty but as expected of Brynhildr-sama who heart was also pure.... On the other hand, wasn’t my heart that impure?

“Um... if that is the case, please call me as Sei.”

“Yes, I understand! Do take care of me from now on okay? Sei-san.”

“I will take care of you for eternity!”

The left hand that was extended with a lovely smile grab the hoof of my front leg firmly. Ah, of course it was the side of the hoof okay? If that was not the case, then Brynhildr-sama hand would get dirty.

“Okay. Since all of the important guests had gathered here, let’s start the self-introduction all over again.”

The important guest had gathered? I wondered what that meant. Did that mean that I was not the only one who would be working in ‘Valhalla Kitchen’ from now on? That right, Brynhildr-sama did bring along a single baby goat,

perhaps was she also going to be a food ingredient?

I looked toward the direction of the baby goat due to curiosity but oh? Somehow her appearance was a bit strange. Her passionate gaze was concentrate on... it was the Chef Head. Don't tell me that she...!

"Mee mee mee."

It seemed that the baby goat was desperately trying to tell something to the Chef Head. It seemed like she was unable to converse in human language. Um... let's see...

"Darling is fantastic, elegant and cool. Please take care of me."

"Hey, what are you saying all of sudden, Sei-kun. Let me said this first, I don't have those type of feelings toward you okay?"

"I also don't have those feeling either! I just trying to help the baby goat to translate what he saying!"

"By translating, Sei-kun, do you mean that you understand the language of the goat?"

"Um... well. I know a bit of it since there is a grandmother goat that live near my parent house."

The Chef Head was considerably impressed after seeing this special talent of mine that I thought was useless. But the thing that made me happier was the admiration gaze from Brynhildr-sama.

He he he, even me who was the gentleman who had mastered on being cool, I'd get carry away by this. Okay, let's continue translating!"

"Mee Mee."

"... Ah... what is she saying?"

"I like you I like you I love you"

The moment when I translated that, the ear of the baby goat stood up. Then...

"Like... like..."

"Woah, this baby goat had started speaking! It seemed that there was quite a lot of animal that could talk, as expected of the God Realm 'Asgard'."

No... to be honest, I was quite surprise. This baby goat was a genius. After hearing my translation, she was able to remember the word 'like' immediately.

This was not something you could remember even if you study a bit but... no, instead of that, she might be able to use the rune of transformation just like me.

"Like, like."

"Ah, I understand it already, thank you. Everyone, this goat is Heiðrún, she is able to squeeze out the best mead from his udder. With Loki-sama recommendation, from on together with Sei-kun, there are the two big leaders... hey, don't pull me that much."

"Like? Like?"

"Hmm? Ah, yes, like like. Next, it's Sei-kun self-introduction, ouch!? Hold it, isn't this baby goat more powerful than her appearance? Hey don't pull my leg that much!"

"Like! Like!"

Hm... somehow due to the suitable reply from the Chef Head, it seemed that Heiðrún was delighted since she thought that the Chef Head had mutual feeling with her.

"Sei-kun! Said something to this baby goat! Since it hurts for real!"

"Ah.. I understand. Um... mee mee."

"Mee?"

"Mememee memee"

"! Mee~!"

After a few second of the surreal conversation, Heiðrún finally released the Chef Head from the bear hug that a goat normally didn't do.

"Phew~ finally.... You helped me, Sei-kun. Then, how did you manage to persuade her?"

"Chef Head... does your room come with a lock?"

"Hmm? Of course, it has. What does that have to do with it?"

“Please remember that you must lock the door before you sleep tonight. That is the only thing that I can said.”

‘You can continue it tonight, at the Chef Head room.’ – I did told her that on my own but it’d be alright, right?

Well, what happened from now on was out of my control. I’d let the Chef Head handle it.

“Okay. Then, Sei-kun, from the top again.”

“Yes.”

As a response to that, I tried to strengthen my heart and look around me. Everyone was looking toward me with their sight full of expectation. The sight from Brynhildr-sama whom I admired was among them.

“Everyone it’s nice to meet you! I am Saehrimnir!”

I came here as the finest food ingredient, the expectation rookie. The hope of ‘Valhalla Kitchen’.

Toward that, I hadn’t really thought of anything big such as having self-awareness or responding to the expectation.

But...

“I love to read book! That’s why I am able to talk in human language! My specialty is...”

That’s right. It’s okay for me to—- uphold my responsibility right now.

“...I will come back alive no matter how many time I die!”

I had the feeling of uneasiness. I also had the feeling of fear. But, I’d do it as a dare devil.

Since I had already departed from that peaceful forest.

My self-introduction ended with the lively applause and all the senior cook had gathered begin to scatter and left the area. I thought there would be people who would go back to sleep and there would be people who go to their station to prepare the breakfast.

At least, it seemed that the Chef Head was heading to his station,

“Then, Sei-kun, I see you during the evening! Until then you are free to do whatever you want.”

After he had said that in a friendly manner, he headed inside the building and disappear.

“Even though you said that...”

I didn’t even know what type of place was ‘Valhalla’. Moreover, I hadn’t even heard on the location of my room. Instead of playing, I guessed I had no choice but to explore ‘Valhalla’ instead?

“Um... Sei-san.”

“Yes? ...Ah... Bryn...Brynhildr-sama!? May I know what’s the matter!”

Once I turned back while saying that, I saw the beautiful Brynhildr-sama. This was a surprise attack since I didn’t expect that Brynhildr-sama would still remain here.

“If you are fine with it, do you want to take you on a tour around ‘Valhalla’?”

“!? That is absurd! I can’t possible trouble Brynhildr-sama with such matter!”

“Fu Fu, it’s alright so there is no need for you to be so reserved okay? It’s not like I will eat you.”

“You won’t eat me?”

“Eh? That’s not it, I might have a bite of you after you are served as a meal but... that was not what I meant just now, okay?”

“Ah, I’m sorry. My livestock personality appear out of a sudden. But is it really okay? To guide someone like me...”

“There is nothing for you to worry about. Since it is something necessary, moreover... I don’t have any work after this for today. Since I don’t feel like returning back to my room... so I would be happy if you would accompany me.”

Eh, what was that just now? Didn’t feel like returning? Accompany her? Hey hey hey, can I really said okay for this for real!

“I will accompany with in pure-hearted way!! Then, let’s head to my room immediately!”

“It seemed that the first place is Sei-san room. I understand!”

With this, the curtain to the preliminary encounter for the honeymoon between me and Brynhildr-sama had started. Yeah!

“We had arrived! This place will be Sei-san room from now on!”

Based on the guidance from Brynhildr-sama we had arrived on the worker dorm which was located besides the ‘Valhalla’ main building. Somehow, it seemed that one of the room in the top floor was my room.

“Hee, so this...”

Since Brynhildr-sama helped me open the door of the room, I immediately went inside to have a look of it.

There were bed, lamp, book shelf, table, chair... yup, it was perfect! No matter how much I looked at it, it was a perfectly normal human room.

“Hm? This is... I’m sorry, Sei-san, this completely look like a room for a human right? It seems that there is some mistake in the arrangement.”

“? Nope, this is exactly as how I request it to be, right? My room in my parent house is roughly like this.”

“Eh? Shouldn’t there supposed to have straw...”

“No~ as expected the smell of new furniture is the best. Thank you very much, Brynhildr-sama! Thanks to you, I will have a great start to my new life!”

“Sei-san, you are a genuine boar right...? Um... by the way, Heiðrún-chan room is not like this at all right?”

“... Straw only. Should be.”

Brynhildr-sama face toward the idling Heiðrún who stood outside of my room and inquired her and she answered with a small nod.

Okay... I got it. At least this was not a preliminary encounter for the honeymoon at all.

This was just a tour on the workplace. It’d be more effective if the tour was given to the two juniors at once. I couldn’t even imagine that I’d be alone with Brynhildr-sama in such a sudden way...

“Putting that aside, it seems you are making a great development on your speaking skill. Heiðrún-chan, you are quite smart.”

“Ah, I’m also surprise on that. She is really a genius since it took me almost a year to master it.”

But it seemed that she was feeling down ever since the Chef Head left for his work. It seemed that her idle appearance right now should be her usual appearance.

“Then, where should I take you to next?”

“That’s right... let’s go and have a look at Heiðrún room and I guess we should head to our workplace after all.”

“Then let’s head toward the kitchen. Around this time... it’s exactly the time where the Einherjars are having their breakfast, I think that you will be able to see how busy it is at this peak hour.”

Brynhildr-sama revealed a cute wry smile since the atmosphere was ruined all of a sudden.

Well... I wouldn’t be standing in the kitchen other than night time due to my circumstance but I was interest to look at how busy it was.

Since the dinner which I was in charge of would be busier than breakfast time.

“It’s an unavoidable passage. Let’s go!”

“I understand!”

After we had a look at Heiðrún room which was just beside of us, we returned to the building where we were at in the beginning.

In the inner area of the first floor of the building. Once I stepped pass the thick metal door which was a part of the preparation room, I was surrounded by the hustle and bustle that I had never ever heard before up until now.

“The muffins and Danish are ready!”

“You fool, the oatmeal is after this! Moreover, I am bringing the wiener so you are in the way!”

“Hey! Can someone peel the apple!?”

Loud noise that sounded like jeers resounded in the kitchen. What was with this scenery, this was like a battle field.

“Yup... I didn’t expect this.”

“That was dangerous!”

Brynhildr-sama quickly carried me who was taken aback at the busy atmosphere.

Woah, that was a close call. I was almost stepped on by the cook who was running inside the kitchen. For your information, I wouldn’t get excited if I was stepped on by guys.

“? Huh, this is a nice smell...”

“Thank you for saving me, Brynhildr-sama. Um... may I know what’s the matter?”

“! Nothing, it’s just that there was a nice smell some reason.”

“Isn’t it because the apple muffin had just finish baked? I can’t even stop my saliva from flowing out...hm?”

Eh... huh!? Hold... hold it, I see, right now ... I was being hug by my dearest Brynhildr-sama!?

“Sniff~~ Haa~~ what is this, Sei-san smell so nice...”

“Huh!?”

Moreover, what was the meaning of this!? Instead of hugging me, she was burying her face on my back— I could feel her breath on my back....!

“I’m... I’m sorry Sei-san, but somehow, please let me stay like this just for a bit longer...”

“No... this is.... This is too stimulating...! Ha... argh!...”

At this place which was closest to the sky, due to my happiness I let go of the ribbon of my conscious.

I didn’t have a proper sight of the ‘Valhalla Kitchen’ but I didn’t regret it at all — faint.

“Huh... this is...?”

The moment when I awoke after I fainted, it seemed that I was at the entrance of the ‘Valhalla’ main building. As a replacement for the long bench, it seemed that I was sleeping on the abandon armour, when I tried to stand up slowly...

“Woah, what... what are you doing Brynhildr-sama!”

“Ah, I’m... I’m sorry! That... I planned to perform mouth to mouth since you had been asleep for quite a long time.”

“Um... it would be better if I had slept for a moment longer...”

But Brynhildr-sama, if you planned to do mouth to mouth, instead of the stomach, you need to deliver air through the mouth.

“Fuu... Sei-san, it’s almost evening.”

For some reason, Brynhildr-sama showed a trance expression after she separated herself from my stomach and from the entrance she pointed at the titled sunlight.

“Woah, that’s right! I’d better made preparation right away or else I will be late on my first job! Excuse me, Brynhildr-sama, I will leave now! Ah, thank you for giving me a tour!”

“You are welcome. Sei-san, let’s meet again at the preparation room!”

That right, Brynhildr-sama was working at the ‘Valhalla Kitchen’ during the night time. I was overflowing with motivation when I thought that I was able to meet with her right away.

“Okay, it’s my first job! I need to do my best!”

I rush toward the preparation room in reckless manner.

After I used my hoof to push the door open, the senior who had finished with their preparation for war were waiting for my arrival.

“You’re late, Sei-kun! Then, after you wear this, our war will begin!”

The Chef Head handed me my personalized pure white chef hat. Woah, to think that I was receiving this! I was now overflowing with more motivation!

“Chef Head! Is there anything that I can help with until it my turn as the main dish?”

“Since it’s your first day, so just look at us obediently.”

“...but.”

Well... if a complete beginner who was not even an apprentice help out, it’d cause trouble instead...

Wait for a moment, this was not the time for you to be relax, Saehrimnir. I believed that the Chef Head was saying ‘Look carefully and steal it’. If that was the case, then I had to look at the gallant figure of my senior carefully as if I was pierced with around ten hole!

Just like this, the preparation for the dinner banquet had started.

Yup, everyone was busying as if they were dying. Do your best, give it your all! Well... I sort of getting bored of it since I was just cheering them.

Ah, I got an idea. Since I was pierced with hole, then it would better to look at the Valkyrie instead. Okay, it was almost time for me to head to the pantry which was just beside of here.

“Sorry for the intrusion... huh?”

I planned to open thousand or ten thousand hole when I came to the pantry but it seemed that there was something weird with the Valkyries who had gathered there.

It was more like... I couldn’t find the appearance of Brynhildr-sama. I called out to the Valkyries in the green armour who was the closest to me.

“Ah... um... Nice to meet you. I am Saehrimnir.”

“Huh? Well, it seems that a boar had escape from the kitchen! We had to catch it!”

“That’s not it! I am the newcomer Saehrimnir! I am a staff!”

“Oh, is that so. Nice to meet you, Chibi-chan. What are you doing at the pantry?”

“Well, it’s not like I had any affair but somehow it seems that you look like

you are in trouble.”

“Ah... actually, the one who entered at the same time as you, the baby goat, Heiðrún is it? The mead that she is in charge of had not arrived yet.”

“Wouldn’t it be better if you went and have a look at her?”

“After saying that, Nee-sama went to check up on her. But, that nee-sama had not come back yet. That’s why we thought that we need to send one more person to go and check up on them.”

“Ah, if that is the case, please leave that to me. Since I have nothing to do up until now.”

“Oh! If so, I will depend on you!”

Okay, I finally obtained my first task. Moreover, since she hadn’t return for such a long time meant that Brynhildr-sama was in some kind of trouble. If I went and help her, her interest toward me would increase tremendously. I bet that the locals also use the shortest route to rush to their path of marriage.

It was better to strike the iron when it was hot since that was decided. After going out of the back door, I dashed toward the end of the corridor where the milking room was located.

“I had kept you waiting... hmm? What is with this smell...!”

I had arrived in front of the milking room. My sense of smell that wouldn’t even lose to a dog, suddenly detected a dangerous smell.

...this was bad. This smell was serious bad. That was because this was... this smell that was full of the smoke from the plant was...the smell of a ‘fire’...!

I used the tip of my nose to touch the door of the milking room timidly. Hot... why was the door so hot!? Don’t tell me...

“The door is embarrassed?”

As if that was the truth! After I made a retort on my own statement, I used my whole body to open the door!

“Tch...!”

The thing that I appeared in my sight was the spark from the crazy bright red

fire.

The ceiling that was covered with soot and the floor and wall that seemed like it'd be melted right now. It was exactly as what I imagined... no. This was the scorching hot hell that was out of my expectation.

What... what exactly caused this...? No, this was not the time for that!

“Brynhildr-sama!! Heiðrún!! Are you here!?”

Even though I shouted in a loud voice, there was no reply at all. But, there was a reaction. Based on my sense of hearing that wouldn't lose to a rabbit, I was sure—that I heard the sound of struggling. There was no mistake of it, the two of them were trapped inside this fire!

I needed to hurry up and save them! I should go and call the other Valkyries!

The moment when I turned my back toward the room. The pillar of the room collapsed together with the loud roaring sound.

“... there won't be enough time if I do that!”

After a moment of hesitation, I immediately changed my plan. I am... the only who could help them right now.

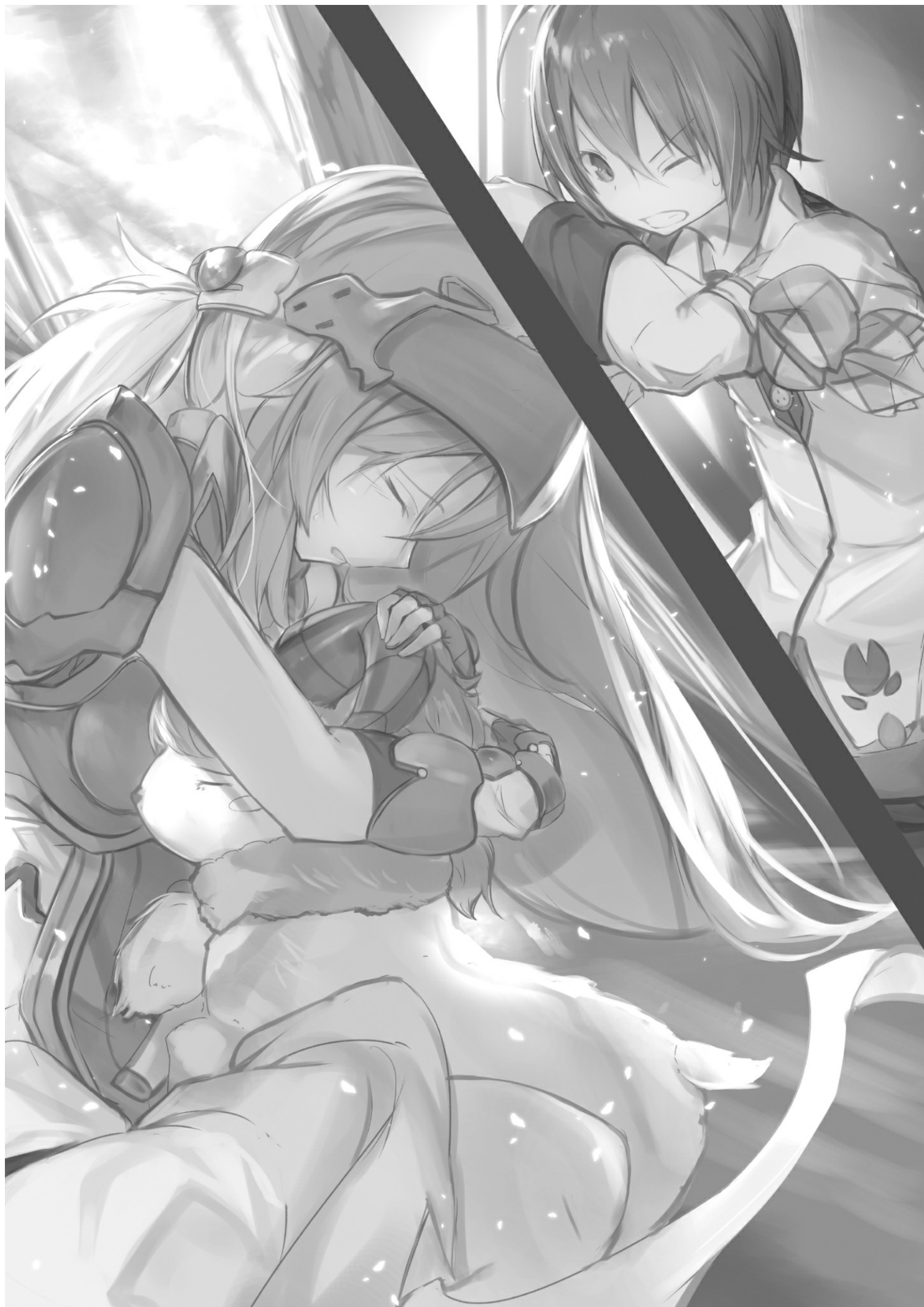
“[...I worship you the skull of Ymir; Kiss his body. Now I ask for permission to expose the Divine Omniscience sacred matter, make the color change, let encounter, departure, reconcile and solitary become a reality! The twenty rune of Futhark, mannaz!]”

I changed into my human form by using the transformation rune magic, ‘Mannaz’ that I was only good at.

I quickly grabbed and submerged the dried sheet that I found in the corridor in a bucket of water. After that, I covered it on my head and jumped toward the sea of fire inside of the milking room.

“...there they are!”

While ignoring the smell of my burnt skin, I let out a delightful voice unconsciously.



Inside the fire, I could see the appearance of Brynhildr-sama who had collapsed while protecting Heiðrún at the centre of the room. It seemed like she was unconscious. But, she was still breathing!

“Oh!!”

I used the wet sheet that I was covering myself with to cover both of them and carry them, without even considering about myself, I dashed out of the fire.

“Yea!! Haa, haa... somehow... I managed... to do it.”

After dashing out of the fire, I jumped out of the room, after I put the two of them near the entrance of the corridor, I had reach the limit of my endurance. My human transformation automatically came undone and I returned back to my boar form.

“Haa, haa... it seemed that it's true that you will have extraordinary strength during the scene of the fire...”

Somehow, around the moment when I was having those carefree thought.

“!? Woah! It's hot! Ah!!”

A part of the wall of the building give off creaking sound and it collapsed on my body when I was relaxing!

Da... damn it, I let my guard down! It seemed that it was too early to be relax! I should had escaped to a further place even if I had to crawl, to think that this...!

“...Ah...Ah... this...”

In the midst of my faint conscious, I started to remember all the memory on the thing that had happen up till today. This was something that I had experience for a numerous time, it was a flashback that I'd see when I was on the brink of my death—.

Since I was seeing this, it seemed that it was already too late for me....Ha ha... the smell of death this time was quite fragrant and delicious....

“Hey!? What the heck is happening!?”

“What, what is this! The annex is on fire! The boar is also on fire!? I need to provide assistance at once!”

Maybe it was because I was slow when coming back, the Valkyrie came in succession and had gathered here.

That was great... since they had come, I could be at ease now. Since it was too late for me already..., ...I'd ... leave it to them... now...

...

...

A moment... it seemed that my consciousness ceased for a single moment. But...

“Ba-dump! Did you all saw this? This is my killer technique... no, should I had said that it a surviving technique instead? Putting that aside, this is my revival ability and it's called ‘Gullveig’!”

Yes, I was fine this way and I was unhurt too!

Somehow it seemed that I had revived near the cooking stove in the preparation room this time. It was nice that I was able to show this to everyone at once since it seemed that all the staffs and the Valkyries had gathered.

“Hee, this is.... Instead of reviving, it's more like you were reborn with a new body instead. Since you left a corpse behind.”

Moreover, since I had revived in this manner, it meant that the world had welcome its sunset.

Well it seemed that I needed to give a detailed explanation about this to the Chef Head after this.

“That's right, are both Brynhildr-sama and Heiðrún safe?”

“They are fine. Both of them are receiving treatment now and is resting in their own room. ...Saehrimnir, I would like to thank you on behalf on my all my sisters for saving Nee-sama.”

With a single sound from the shoe, all the Valkyrie sister lowered their head respectfully toward me. Toward that, I waved my front leg in a hurry.

“I don’t deserve this! Since it something that everyone will do after all.”

That was the truth. In fact, I’d feel bad if they lower their head toward me like this.

“That’s right, Chef Head. My corpse...”

“Yup, it’s inside the pot over there. It is still usable even though it was well done, so I just throw it in as it is.”

“I’m glad if that is the case. That is because, I am unable to die anymore for today due to some reason.”

“? What do you mean by that?”

“Ah—I will explain to you on this later, okay? Actually my revival technique actually consume a large amount of my magic power...”

“Hold it, let’s just stop here. Then, it’s okay for you to have a properly rest for today. Thank you for your hard work, Sei-kun.”

“Thanks for your hard work. Everyone, I will take my leave here.”

I left the kitchen while everyone send me off with their applause. Even though the banquet would start now, it was impossible for me to help in my current condition. I might die in a different way starting tomorrow but it wouldn’t make a difference since I would still die.

“Fuu~...”

I dived toward my bed after I had reached my room with my shaky footing. And the drowsy came immediately.

Starting from tomorrow... I needed to get used to the recoil of this power... right...

The next morning. I did some stretches on my bed since both my body and mind had completely recovered.

Well~ it was expected of the supply from the Aesir God. The bed that they prepared was so fluffy which I was able to have a good sleep. This had totally become an addiction, I never ever planned to sleep for a second time if it was the cheap bed from my parent house.

While giving off a big yawn, I left my room. Hmm, even though I came out of my room, I hadn't thought of what I want to do.

"That's right, maybe I should go and visit Brynhildr-sama to check up on her situation? Since I have plan to have a discussion with the Chef Head... argh, Brynhildr-sama!? Why are you here!?"

On the corridor immediately after I left my room, for some reason, it seemed that Brynhildr-sama was standing there.

I was slow on noticing it! If I continued walking, wouldn't Brynhildr-sama shoe will almost be kiss by me!

...hmm? No, hold it, that was not an almost at all, in fact why didn't I go and kiss it! Then I'd pretend that it was an accident...!

"...Sei-san."

"Yes!? I'm sorry, that was something disgusting right!?"

"Eh? No, that's not it... umm. I heard from my sister on the matter from yesterday. That Sei-san had saved my when I was trapped in the fire. ...by risking your life."

"It's not that great, haha. Well, it's not something big, so there is nothing for you to worry about."

"I am worry about it!"

"Eh..."

After hearing that sudden shout, I shrank my body unconsciously. When I looked up timidly toward Brynhildr-sama, she... was crying.

"I'm... I'm sorry... but, I have concerned on that. Sei-san did that... because Sei-san was burnt to death...!"

Why... was Brynhildr-sama showing such a sad expression? That was because I, as you can see it, I was fine. There was nothing for her to be sad at all.

"... I see..."

I guessed death can bring that kind of meaning. I dashed into the fire while carrying the thought that even if I died, I'd be able to revive anyway.

But... if that was the case, then I wouldn't be able to save anyone at all.

"... Brynhildr-sama. How did the fire from yesterday started?"

"I... went to collect the mead from Heiðrún-chan place... afterward, it seems that the mead was caught on fire. It seems that Heiðrún-chan wanted to surprise the Chef Head And by making a flambé."

"That is not something that was meant for a surprise at all."

"Well, by right it should be at the degree where only the surface was lightly burnt though. The instance when I went to visit her, the straw that was used for resting around the room was caught on fire and whirled up...in just a moment, we were surrounded by the flame. It is at a degree that it was difficult for us to escape."

"I see. That's why you were crouching down while covering her."

"Yup. I thought of using my God Technique to blow away the fire but since I am unable to control the output, it's possible that it result in the danger that the whole building will collapse, that's why I was unable to do anything.... If Sei-san didn't come, this time I... I am truly grateful that you have saved me."

"... I don't deserve that. I don't have the qualification of being thank. In the end, I... was unable to save Brynhildr-sama at all.

Brynhildr-sama tilted her head when I said that I denied her thanks. I followed up by saying this.

"Since the me who had helped you is already dead, it caused the victim to be sad instead. From that sadness, I felt that I was unable to protect Brynhildr-sama at all. The me from that time... shouldn't had die."

That was why... that was why I... made an oath.

"I will no longer die like this anymore. In order to protect... you."

"Se... Sei-san...!"

Brynhildr-sama was looking at me with her passionate gaze. While bending her knee, she touch my forehead with her hand... and Brynhildr-sama started to say this quietly.

“In the past—it’s something that happened a few hundred years ago. Due to some reasons, I was in a deep sleep inside of a building in the mountain called ‘Hindarfjall’. Since the building was surrounded by fire, no one dare to approach it. ...Unless it’s someone that is truly brave.”

Brynhildr-sama purposely made a pause and she used her finger that was on my forehead to slide. Both her hand that was redirected toward my back was drawing toward the middle of my chest gently.

“At that time. There was only one person who overcame the fire. That person was known as a great hero by everyone, as he was a great warrior. In order to obtain the fame and glory, he overcame the fire... but Sei-san, you are different. Your bravery is the real deal since you jumped into the fire while risking your life for other. You have the qualification to be the true hero. I truly respect you... from the bottom of my heart.”

“Well~ there is no need for you to respect me. As a boar like me, a kick is more than enough.”

“I respect you! I truly respect you! I truly truly respect you!”

“Okay, please forgive me!”

Woah, somehow it seemed that she was quite persistent in her respect toward me. Since this was the case, I’d just let her respect me until she got over it. I believed that the day she’d definitely kick me when she had awoken for this would come one day.

Ahem... it was not like I wanted to be kick intentionally by her okay? My goal would be in front of me if that respect changed to longing and the longing had changed to love.

In order for me to welcome that ending, I would try my best to maximize that respect of hers toward me— which was what I thought.

That was what I thought... the night that day.

In the kitchen where the preparation for the banquet was progressing, I who handled the main dish was being focus by the voice that inquired on my determination.

“Then Sei-kun, had you made up your mind?”

“No.”

“Sei-kun, please tell me... how many time do I have to ask until you are okay? After this, how many time do I need to ask you ‘Had you make up your mind?’ until you’re okay...”

“If possible, as many as you can.”

“I am in a bind if that is the case! You do know that I had been waiting for you since you said that you are waiting for the suitable time to pass away? Since the pot is waiting for you at its highest temperature, can you just stop this and jump in it already!”

“I’m sorry! I will jump into it right away!”

Damn it, what was with the ‘I won’t die for another time’, wouldn’t this make the me from this morning seem stupid? Since I’d die every night! And it was something that was reserve for a long time! I was unable to cancel it at all! The moment when I accepted to work as a food ingredient, my fate had been decided!

But somehow... wasn’t resisting fate seem kind a cool? Right? Wasn’t that right?

“Argh...!?”

I realized it at that moment. The silent stare from Brynhildr-sama from the pantry.

That, that right! Brynhildr-sama! I did made a promise with you yesterday right? That I’d no longer die anymore.

It was a pity but it seem that I was unable to keep that promise with my power alone... that was why please gave me one recommendation out of compassionate! The voice that could help me change my fate with the authority of the Valkyrie!

After realizing that I was sending the gaze of an abandoned livestock, Brynhildr-sama hastily looked left and right. at the end of her distress, she showed a smile as if she was asking for forgiveness and

“That... please... do your best! Sei-san!”

She gave me a supporting shout while showing a guts pose.

Ah, that was right, wasn't it, Brynhildr-sama. I got it, yup I had completely understood it.

There was no man who wouldn't get excited after being cheered by the women that they loved. I'd turn this feeling that allowed me to ascend to the sky into wings and followed my fate for now!

“Yup, Saehrimnir, it's time for you to show your bravery! Go!!”

My body felt light as I made the jump that was filled with my determination.

After the momentarily suspension that was wrapped with the commotion, I — fell into the boiling pot.

“It's hot!!!”

Don't you think that once someone saw my hard work... they would respect me by a little?

That was why I should puff up my chest and said this in a loud voice.

The brown boar, Saehrimnir risked his life to provide you with this delicious and tasty meat dish.

I would like everyone in the world to try and have a bite of me.

— just like this, my day as the 'Valhalla dinner' started.

This starting day was a precious and irreplaceable memory of mine. But toward others, I believe it was just a page in their daily life that was unable to catch their attentions....that right, that was what I thought.

It seemed that this day was also an irreplaceable memory for Brynhildr that was deeply carved in her heart.

Valhalla no Bangohan Volume 4 Prologue

ヴァル ハラの 晩ご飯

IV

パビヨット
～イノシシとイノシシモドキの包み焼き～



三鏡一敏

イラスト ◆ ファルまる



ヴァルの 晩ご飯

～イノシシとイノシシモドキの包み焼き～



IV



三鏡一敏

イラスト ◆ ファルまろ

デザイン ◆ BEE-PEE



温和で可憐な戦乙女の長女
ブリュンヒルデ

Brynhildr

ヴァルキューレ9姉妹の長女。強力な剣の使い手だが、性格は温和で誰にでも敬語で接する。ヴァルトラウテのお姉さん力に、長女として焦りが……？

神界に来た
“煤け色のイノシシ”
セイ(イノシシ ver.)

Schrimmir

本作主人公。一日一回生き返れるという不思議な能力を持っている。今回ついにその能力の正体が……？

イノシシのセイです！

今回は戦乙女9姉妹の4女、ヴァルトラウテさまと8女のグリムゲルデさまと色々縁があります！

でもブリュンヒルデさまは、長女の自分よりお姉さんキャラっぽいヴァルトラウテさまにちょっと嫉妬気味……？

大人の魅力全開の4女
ヴァルトラウテ

Waltraute

ヴァルキューレ9姉妹の4女。癒やしの術を得意としている。お姉さんっぽさと胸部のボリュームは姉妹ナンバーワン。

仮面の下は凶暴美少女な8女
グリムゲルデ

Grimgarde

ヴァルキューレ9姉妹の8女。前回の料理対決の際、セイの前でその仮面の下の本性をあらわにした。

アースガルド
神界での日常
Scene.01



速さは姉妹最速の次女
ゲルヒルデ
Gerhilde
ヴァルキューレ9姉妹の次女。プライドが高く、何事にも張り合う。

ルーンの扱いに長ける7女
ジークルーネ
Siegrune
ヴァルキューレ9姉妹の7女。ツンデレでとってもちょろい。

真面目にぶまじめな6女
ヘルムヴィーゲ
Helmwig
ヴァルキューレ9姉妹の6女。いつもどこかでりぼっている。

アニスガルド
神界での日常
Szene.02

健気で元気な末っ子
ロスヴァイゼ
Roswaige
ヴァルキューレ9姉妹の9女。いつも元気いっぱいな姉妹のムードメーカー。

突然のブラジャー祭りに
ボク大歓喜!
この純白のは9姉妹の誰のかな!?
……いや、なんで
こんなことになったの?

クールで大胆不敵な3女
オルトリンデ
Ortlinde
ヴァルキューレ9姉妹の3女。独特の「ですし」語尾で話す。

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Prologue

In that moment—it seemed that one of the world had ended.

It was like an end to the fake stage performance... it was also the demise of the friendship that I had kept on believe up until now.

Even though I understood it in my head... I was unable to accept the reality that I was seeing now.

“Hey Loki. How... I wonder how it ended up like this.”

I asked my best friend who stood a bit further from me with my voice trembling. Loki closed his eye as if he was sorry and he shut his mouth for a moment. But, he answered right away.

“The reason is quite simple. This was decided from the beginning. It’s ‘fate’.”

That was true... it might be like that.

Since I was who I was , I believed that this was the ending that Loki sought. Moreover, there wasn’t even a room to oppose it anymore.

But, what if.

If we were able to do this all over again— Would I desire a different ending?

(Well... it’s too late for everything already.)

At the center of the God Realm ‘Asgard’, the shadow became longer in the wide plain of ‘Vígríðr’.

The moment when the curtain for the dawn was drawn and replaced by the night. In that single moment when the sun touch the ground, I awoken the domain power inside the depth of me right away.

“[...I worship you the skull of Ymir; Kiss his body. Now I ask for permission to expose the Divine Omniscience sacred matter, make the color change, let encounter, departure, reconcile and solitary become a reality! The twenty rune

of Futhark, mannaz!]

The greedy fellow, my name is — ‘The greedy fallen dragon’ Fafnir!”

I let the power go amok in the plain as a berserk dragon would do as if I was the real deal.

The transformation of depravity that was covered by the malicious purple scale. The king of illusion that was the symbol of both destruction and violence.

I was still not sure how was it I was able to become like this. But... I believed that this was the power that was necessary for me.

For the sake of facing the undeniable fate.

“... It seems that you are serious, Sei. If that is your intention then I won’t hold back either. Come face me, partner. At least by using my own hand— I will kill you.”

Loki took out a bundle of mistletoe branches from his pouch and they became sword after he put in some magic power. The bunch of his swords, Mistletoes floated in the sky and all the tips were pointed toward me.

In an instant, a gust of wind blew through the plain that was stained with bright red color. In the middle of the stillness time, there was a confrontation between a god and a dragon. I gave out a roar with the unwavering belief that was filled in my heart.

“This is the first and the last match. Here we go! Loki!”

“Let’s see what you are capable of, Saehrimnir! I will end this without giving you any pain!”

The big thick tail slam on the ground and sand scattered when the tough back leg destroy the foothold. Against my brilliant leap, the trickster God was still dashing on the ground.

The bunch of sword that gather behind of Loki looked like a wing.

With a flap, that cold light from the silver wing gave off spark during the confrontation with my claw—

The Prophecy God, Mimir once said this before. The end of the world — ‘Ragnarok’ would come.

We were unsure of what was it and the detailed of it at all.

But if that thing was really going to happen from now on... no matter how unprecedented that tragedy was ... my thought was. I believed that this battle was also a part of 'Ragnarok'.

There was no observer here, so there wouldn't be anyone who would talk about this.

That was why, I'd never forget about it.

The legendary story that... was craved in this unknown place.

I would never— forget about this.

Valhalla no Bangohan Volume 4 Chapter 1

Chapter 1 – The Color of the Invisible Heart

“Look here! Loki, look at this! I had properly written down in my diary, on the matter that happen just now!”

“Ah~ I understand I understand. I also had a vague memory of it, the legend of your tenacity.”

We were at my room after we came back from the decisive battle at the plain of ‘Vígriðr’. I thrust my diary toward the fed up Loki to show him the content.

The content was this ‘As a response to the unreasonable request from the wicked god, Loki, the brown boar, Saehrimnir was killed by the person that he thought was his friend.’

You don’t understand what it mean? What a coincidence, I also have no idea. Then why don’t we try to investigate further by taking the account of the explanation from Loki.

“I understand it properly okay? I’m properly understand that you are discontent on this. Beside didn’t you said that you will participate in my ‘Plan to free Fenrir’? You did said that right? Because of the word you said that time, I start to depend on you.”

“Yes, I said that, I am confident that I said that. I will not make any excuse on that since that is the truth. But... it is out of my expectation that the method of helping is a story that start from ‘I’m sorry, but can you die once again?’!”

“That... that’s why I am apologizing numerous time to you like this.”

“That’s not the problem! You better don’t forget that life is something that last for one time only!”

Breathe in... breathe out.... I could finally be at ease now since I had said all the thing that I wanted to said. For god’s sake, Loki always said these outrageous stuffs, no matter how many time it was...

— The cause for all this happened around one hour ago. Let turn back the time to the moment before the sun set.

“I had a small request for you since it’s finally time for us to proceed to free Fenrir.”

My partner, Loki, whom I didn’t heard for one month ever since he began his aimless trip. To think that this was the first thing that I heard from him immediately after he returned to the God Realm ‘Asgard’ from his journey.

For your information, there was a certain battle in ‘Valhalla’ that happened exactly one month ago from today.

That was the serious match between me and my master which was the Chef Head. It was not like we were fighting physical, okay? We had a cooking battle while betting on our value and pride.

The conclusion of that match with the unprecedented match ended as a victory for me but... I was a little worry since I didn’t notice Loki who served as a judge that time suddenly went missing.

For your information, Fenrir was a powerful magic wolf that was feared by all of the God. According to the prophecy from the God of prophecy, Mimir, he would have his revenge on the world, so he was currently isolated at the end of the world while his body was binded by the magic ribbon, Grapevine.

But... due to a certain reason, I went and meet him personally, he didn’t seem like an evil wolf at all to me.

Moreover, since he was the son of Loki, I had promise to help with the plan to free him secretly. Since I had said that myself, I expected to follow it since I was a boar that kept its promise. After all, I was a gentleman.

I didn’t expect that I had to die as the first step for that plan...

“There is no choice. Since this is something necessary in order to obtain the ‘Sword of Ívaldi’.”

“That... is that the sword that is able to cut through Grapevine?”

“That’s right. Grapevine seems like a thin ribbon but it had the feature of unbreakable since it is a special made order to the Dwarf. No matter how powerful Fenrir is, it’s a fact that he is unable to slice it. The sword of Ívaldi is needed to erase that feature so that it could cut through it.”

After saying that, Loki showed a thumb up while laughing as if he was implying that it something awesome. Yup, it was. I understood that it was awesome.

But to think that one of the material to make that was...

“To think that it’s the ‘Heart of a dragon’.”

I suddenly said that unconsciously while letting out a sigh.

Well... I should had predicted from the beginning that there was such a future where there would be a request for such an ‘extreme ingredient’. That Grapevine which was binding Fenrir right now was made from strange material.

Things like ‘the footstep of a cat’ and ‘the root of a stone’. The ribbon was made out of these ingredient that seemed impossible to gather. That was why it was obvious that a befitting ingredient was needed to made a sword that was able to cut through it.

I had no complain if one of the ingredient was heart of a dragon which belonged to the legendary aerial type.

“Well it’s true that it’s not something impossible for me. That is because I am able to transform into a dragon by chance and thanks to the power of ‘Gullveig’, I won’t die even if my heart was taken away. After considering all this condition, there is no one else that is more suitable for this.”

“Isn’t that right? That’s why there is no mistake in asking your help on this.”

“No, can you at least think from my perspective when your friend ask for your heart. By taking that into account, this is a mistake from the very beginning.”

But... let’s put the promise and such aside, I also shared the same feeling with

Loki on the desire to free Fenrir. That was why I accepted Loki request unwillingly in the end.

By taking the opportunity, we also had a bit serious battle but... it was a pity that the result was the overwhelming victory for Loki. I was a fool since I thought that I had a chance to fight a bit bravely since previously he said that 'I bear too much responsibility in dragon extermination' and in fact he was quite good at it.

"Well... it's something in the past now and I did agree on it too. So, Loki, since you somehow manage to obtain the heart of a dragon now, what is your next ingredient?"

"Argh.... Actually... actually Sei, the matter about the heart of a dragon..."

Hm...? What... what's the matter? This is bad. I had a bad prediction about this without a need to finish hearing what he said...

"Sorry. Actually the heart... I am unable to obtain it."

"What... what do you mean by that? I am sure that I was killed by Loki right?"

"Ya. I chopped off your head in a neat manner. That way I am able to retrieve your heart from your corpse but... there is nothing. There isn't an organ in the corpse that is worthy to be known as a heart. This is something that I only know now, somehow it seem that dragon does not have a heart."

Don't have... a heart? Eh, that can't be true. Is it alright for such living being to exist? I wonder how a dragon circulation system function without a heart.

No, wait for a moment, that was wrong, Sei. That was indeed mysterious but the important thing right now was not the secret of a dragon. But it was the fact that it was impossible to obtain the heart of a dragon. In another word...

"My death was in vain like how a dog dies!?"

"No, that's wrong! You had properly transform into a dragon! So you're not a dog!"

"This is not the time for you to said thing like that!"

How could that be... to think I was unable to fulfil the objective even though I had tried my best while risking my life...

No. I couldn't blame Loki for this. That was because no one knew that a dragon didn't have a heart. Moreover, I was not aware of it even though I was able to transform into a dragon.

But we were in a bind... if one of the ingredient was something that did not exist in this world, it seemed that the dream of making the sword of Ívaldi was a dream after all. This was not something I should said but I thought we should tell Ívaldi-san a piece of our mind.

"Hey, Loki, is there any chance that we were being played with?"

"... That might be true... but I don't that it. I am unable to think that the enthusiasm from Ívaldi is for show and it's a dreamlike situation to be able to craft a sword with the support from a God. There is no dwarf that won't grab hold of this chance that could lead to a birth of a legend."

"Then that means... there is a high probability that he is not lying."

Yup~, the heart of a dragon was it... perhaps it ws not something that was obtainable from a dragon even though it was known as the heart of a dragon?

In the worst situation, I might have to go and seek advice from Nidhogg since he was a dragon that I was acquaintance with. But, he was located at the country of the deceased 'Helheim'. Since it was far, cold and dangerous, if possible it was a place that I didn't want to go. Let's just put that as our last method

"For the time being, Sei, let's go ask someone near here who is knowledgeable on dragon. If that does not bear any fruit, then we had to go to 'Helheim' and visit Nidhogg."

Ah, it seemed that Loki was having the same thought as me.

"There is one person that come to mind when it comes to knowledge on dragon. Let's go and ask that person first. ...there is something that I want to say but... since it already night time now, how about we meet up at 'Valhalla' tomorrow morning?"

"Ah, that's right. Then, let's meet up when it's time for breakfast tomorrow."

While fluttering his hand, Loki went out of the room, I raised my front leg as a

respond to that.

Okay, I couldn't wait for tomorrow. That was because if we were able to know more about a dragon, then I might be able to figure out the mystery on the reason for my dragon transformation.

I was excited since this was a situation where I was able to kill two birds with one stone, I decided to sleep as preparation for tomorrow.

The next morning. Loki arrived at 'Valhalla' on time as what he declared. After we met up, we took this opportunity to have breakfast together.

"Oh, this is quite an amazing sight."

"Eh? Which is?"

"Having breakfast together with the Einherjars. Normally, it's rare for me to approach 'Valhalla' at this time. It's unexpectedly quite magnificent even though it's morning."

The gentle rays from the sun shined in the morning of the 'Valhalla Big Canteen'. Loki expressed his astonishment while looking at the numerous dishes that were lined up alongside the wall.

That's right. The breakfast for the Einherjars was normally in the buffet style. It was fine whether they wanted to eat on the spot or place it on a plate and eat it on the table. If I had to mention it, there was only one rule here which was the winner was the quickest.

"Since the dish that was made from my meat or Ikusu meat dish last night will disappear from the magic pot, Eldhrimnir, when the moon sets. Mostly the meat that was used for breakfast are the meats from the livestock that was bought from Aegir-sama. If I had to say it, the numbers are quite limited. This is a system where those who wake up early are able to dine on their favourite meat dish."

"I see, isn't that great? That method is healthy and the meat is most probably chicken or beef right? I'm not saying that pork or venison is bad but it's nice to have the common meat some time. But the dish that I ate during the cooking match last time... both of them are quite amazing."

Loki wiped off his drool while showing a triumphant look unconsciously as if

he remembered the taste of the dish that time.

“Hehe. Even though you said both of the dishes are delicious, in the end I won with my dish right?”

“That’s right but there was just a slight difference only okay? Moreover... I would prefer to eat the Ikusu meat instead. The female Ikusu instead of the male you. If you think about it logically, hehehe!”

“What is with that rude remark! Isn’t that just being sexist!”

“But you are able to understand the feeling properly right?”

“Yes.”

Ah, I done it, I answered immediately without having a second thought. Well, what done was done, since it was the truth after all. Instead of drinking the mead from the jug, it would be better to drink it directly from the brea... ahem, I mean using ‘Odin style’. This was the same as that.

“Oh~, what’s the matter? Oshishou-sama, do you perhaps intent to eat Ikusu?”

“Ya. Especially when you are in your human form just like now, it’s not the normal eat... huh Ikusu!? Why... why are you here!?”

“Why, I normally come here to have my breakfast...”

I was surprise that Ikusu answered with a puzzle face while looking at me who was being exaggeratedly surprised. Is that so, you came here for your breakfast. It was a given since this was the time for that.

“Yo, Sei’s first disciple. I think this is the first time we are having a conversation like this. If I am not mistaken your full name is... Eikpyrnir. Is that right?”

That’s right. It was exactly as what Loki said, I had a disciple. The baby deer, Eik... argh, to think that Loki was able to remember such a difficult name.

Putting that aside, her nickname Ikusu was a praiseworthy disciple of mine who was willing to be my replacement for the dinner once I requested her.

Well there was a lot of problem until it became like that but... what past is

past, the most important thing was the experience gained from that.

“Eh... um...that... yes... that right...”

After Loki spoke out to her, the enthusiastic of her disappear and she was slurring on her word while hiding behind of me.

I thought for a moment on the reason but I had forgotten the fact that she was an extreme shy girl. Since she was a deer that watered all the plants in the big farm alone without depending on anyone. I had forgotten about it since she was so cheerful but to her it was quite nervous when standing in front of another person like this.

She started to open her heart a little with the kitchen staff since she showed up quite often in the ‘Valhalla Kitchen’ after she became my disciple but... it seemed that she was quite nervous when talking to a person that she met for the first time.

“Ikusu, he is Loki. He is one of the judge during the cooking match last time, even though he is like this, he’s the number 2 in the God Realm. Of course, you are aware of this right?”

“Even though you said that, you don’t even notice me until Gerhilde informed you right?”

“Well, that is because Loki transformed into a hawk!? Can you not said thing that would cause people to misunderstand!?”

Weren’t you being rude since you said it in a manner as if I didn’t know anything? Moreover, we were in front of my disciple so I wished that you would choose your word more carefully.

Then, after listening to our frank argument, Ikusu began to reveal her face slowly from my back. Well, even if you hid behind of me when I was in my boar form, you wouldn’t be able to hide anything from the beginning...

“Loki-sama, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your judgement on me.”

“Oh. Well, even though it ended up like that, you were truly delicious. You were so delicious that I started to drool unconsciously.”

“It... it’s an honour. That... if you are fine with it, I hope you can taste it this time also...”

“Oh, I would love to do that. I regret a bit since it would be nice if I had savor you properly. I will rely on you to me its spicy when I taste it next time.”

“I... I understand! Actually there were various spices growing in my farm, that’s why I am sure the dish will be suitable for you next time!”

Yup, I wondered what was going on with this conversation. The statement should be something straight forward but if you thought about it properly, I feared that the content was quite disturbing.... This was already the destiny for a food ingredient.

After this and that, that strange interaction managed to break the ice between Loki and Ikusu immediately. With this I was able to be at ease with my position as a partner and as a Shishou.

Around the moment when the early bird Einherjars left, the second wave of Einherjars started to enter the canteen in a continuous manner.

I didn’t want to be involved in the genuine congestion. After we said our goodbye to Ikusu, we began to walk over to our destination— which was a certain room at the main building of ‘Valhalla’.

“Oh, aren’t you Sei-dono. It seems that you are together with Loki-sama today, may I ask what do you need from this old man?”

The room that we had arrived. It was the room of the strongest Einherjars, the legendary black swordsman, Witige-san.

Rumour had it that the match between him and the great hero, the dragon slayer, ‘Sigurd’ ended up as a tie. I was pretty sure he had a bit knowledge when it came to dragon.

“I’m sorry for coming this early in the morning, Witige-san. Actually we have a question about dragon... would you spare us some of your time before your practice begin?”

“Ho ho, dragon is it. Okay, I glad to answer it if it is something that I am aware of.”

“Then let just go to the point, Grandpa, it’s about Sigurd subjugation of Fafnir, did he told you how he killed Fafnir?”

Loki ask him without beating around the bush. As a response to that, Witigesan slowly swing his head and answered.

“Loki-sama, it’s a pity but... he didn’t. It’s true that I had a match with Sigurd but I only know about his legend after that... and he didn’t told me anything either.”

“I see. Then, how about him? Since your father had a pretty close relationship with Fafnir.”

“Hm... it’s true that when my father, Wayland was young, he become the disciple of the blacksmith, ‘Regin’ who was the younger brother of the dragon form dwarf, Fafnir... and it seems that Wayland can’t stop his quarrel with Regin son-in-law, Sigurd. As a result, he quit within three year. Since it was something that happened before the birth of the legend of the dragon slayer, as expected the detail info...”

Sigh, is that so. It was true that Witigesan was close to Sigurd and Fafnir but it seemed that he had no knowledge on the legend of the dragon slayer.

“Sigh. It seems that I was unable to be of help... I am sorry.”

“No, don’t said that, there is no need for Witigesan to apologize at all. In fact, we would like to thank you for sparing us some of your time.”

I gave my thanks in a polite manner and bow down. Loki was being Loki as he scratch his head as if he was showing his disappointment.

Then... since it ended up like this, it seemed that we had no other choice. I looked toward Loki while having that thought, after our eyes met, Loki let out a big sigh and said.

“Seem like there is no other way. Then, let’s hurry up and head toward ‘Vanaheim’. Do you want to come together, Sei? As a companion on the trip.”

“Of course, that is my intention from the start. ...Ah, but before that, can we go to the canteen for a short while?”

“The canteen? Didn’t we just had our breakfast just now? Don’t tell me that

you have Alzheimer now?”

“No, I don’t have Alzheimer at all! Can you not something this rude toward a young boar while holding me!? ...The truth is I wanted to go to the kitchen instead of the canteen. Since it’s possible that we won’t be coming back for a while after we went to ‘Vanaheim’, so I want to have a talk with the Chef Head to confirm on the jerky in the storage.”

“Ah, I see, the so called preserved food. Else, your disciple can’t be made into a meal.”

As expected of Loki, it seemed that he understand it quite well. That was not it, well since the person who found out that my ‘Gullveig’ was able to transfer to other was none other than Loki.

“Since that is the case, let’s head to the kitchen first.”

We headed toward the kitchen after I dragged Loki who gave a small nod toward my plan. The Chef Head was precisely taking a break after he finish cleaning up the breakfast in the kitchen.

“Chef Head~!”

“Oh? So, it’s just Sei-kun. Ah, good morning to you too, Loki-sama.”

After the Chef Head saw us, he stood up from his chair and greeted us. But Loki immediately urged him to sit down with his hand gesture. Unexpectedly, Loki seemed like a well-manner person at these time. He even gave his thanks properly to the human who bought a drink to him.

“Chef Head. How is the stock of my jerky?”

“Hmm? I’m pretty sure there are still some left but... if we include the one in the confetti, there is more than enough. Why do you ask that?”

“Actually I will be going to ‘Vanaheim’ together with Loki now. It’s not like this will be a day trip but it might take a long time so I just want to confirm the stock.”

“Hee, that is quite a good worry from you. I am delighted.”

While saying that, the Chef Head showed a carefree smile and patted my head. But at that moment, the chef Head immediately withdraw his hand as if

he thought of something.

“I’m sorry, Sei-kun, it seems like I patted you as if I looking down on you. Since I had lost to you in a cooking match.”

He said that while averting his gaze, and the smile of the Chef Head unexpectedly change to a smile to laugh at himself. Ah, please hold it for a moment, was the Chef Head being disturbed by that?

“Chef Head, you did not lose at all! I only managed to do that since I am able to transform into the world most delicious chicken, ‘Gullinkambi’ with the help of everyone.”

“No. That’s not the reason for your victory right? You must never forget that you had put in the ingredient which is ‘love’ in your dish. Moreover, Sei-kun... it is a pity but in the culinary world, the result is the most important.”

“The result...? No, I never thought like that. Culinary is... the ‘smile’ is the most important.”

“Smile...?”

The Chef Head opened his eyes wide after hearing that. I continued with my sentence.

“Even though I made the judges cry with my dish in the end. Even if that is the tear of joy, there was no smile at all. But when Odin-sama and Loki taste your dish, they were surprised at first and reveal a smile. That was the greatest smile. I think that that is... the genuine dish.”

“A meal that... let the one who eat it smile...”

“That’s right. That’s why when I taste my mother’s meal that I thought is the number one in the world— I always show a smile.”

Loki who served as a judge in that cooking match nodded his head to agree on my assertion.

That’s right — it was true that I might have won the ‘match’. But if we were talking about the ‘meal’ only, the victory belongs to the Chef Head.

“... Thank you, Sei-kun. Just by hearing you said that, I can be at ease. But...”

In that moment — the expression of the Chef Head become clouded.

“I wish I was... able to hear you said that earlier. If I was able to hear you said that earlier... I might have a different future.”

The next moment when I was thinking about that, the Chef Head stood up from his chair forcefully and took out a small vial from the pocket of his apron. He put it on top of the counter as if he wanted to smash it.

“Chef... Chef Head. This is...?”

I jumped up toward the counter, and checked the content of the vial. Based on the appearance, the content was a pure white powder. But I was not sure on the true identity of that powder.

“Sei-kun, don’t you think that sometime... after the turning point which is the cooking match, my meal taste a bit different?”

The Chef Head talked in a calm manner to confirm each and every single word. While slowly getting a feeling of something ominous, I chose my word carefully to answer him.

“Yes... that... right... once you put it like that it’s a bit strange... it became mild right?”

The moment when I answered that, the Chef Head hang his head slightly and smirked.

It was as if he was saying as expected through his joyful expression. Putting that aside, but there was an ominous shadow in his expression. I had no idea why was the Chef Head making such an expression.

“...That’s correct. That’s right. My new dish that had become a bit mild... is not only for the Einherjars, but it made to serve more people. After the cooking match, the God Tribe had become interested in ‘food’. Of course, Odin-sama is included among them.”

As if he was repeating his word, the expression of the Chef Head gradually become dangerous. Chef Head... what were you trying to say? I was unable to stop this throbbing of mine.

“Ah, that’s right. The reason for my dish becoming mild is... the reason is this

white powder. Hey, Sei-kun. What do you think... this powder is?"

"What... I... I don't know, isn't it just some sort of a secret ingredient only?"

The Chef gave me a daring laughter toward my reply. That smile was not an affirmation nor a denial.

"Actually I... I was chosen by Freya-sama when I was young and begin starting to work for a long time in the 'Valhalla Kitchen'. Due to that long months and year, the God started to put their trust on me. Thanks to that, everyone is willing to eat my meal without any doubt. For a month they had my new dish that contain this 'secret powder'. This powder... without knowing that this powder is a strong addictive!!"

"!! Poison... is it!?"

For a month—after he lost to my in the match, the Chef Head mixed in a strong addictive substance in the meal he prepared!

His unexpected word thrust deep into my chest. Loki forehead began to excrete large cold drop as if he approached the counter while covering his mouth.

"Ha ha ha! To me this is some sort of a dangerous poison, if it was possible I don't want to use it! Even though there was a choice for me to not use this! But... he he, it's all your fault, Sei-kun, since you were able to overtake me that easily...!"

"An...And... I misjudged you! To think that you had the guts to poison all of us as your revenge since you lost to Sei in the cooking match!"

The moment when that conclusion was decided, Loki grabbed the Chef Head by his collar. But... as if the Chef Head had predicted that, he immediately put his hand into the pocket at the chest, he took out a similar vial as the one in the counter and scatter it toward Loki face."

"Here you go! You should have a proper taste of it too! Since you will become happy!"

"!? Damn you... cough... cough!"

"Loki!?"

“Hold it, you too Sei-kun! I want to hear your opinion too!”

The Chef Head also scattered the powder toward me without holding back! Damn, this was bad! I inhaled some of it due to my carelessness!

The white power which was a strong addictive was eating me up from my inside. This special smell that coiled around my nasal cavity and the taste that remained on my tongue... ..lick... this was yogurt!!

“Do you understand now? Sei-kun. That powder is... a product that was made from Heizu mead in powder form. There was no harm to your health so please be at ease.”

That must be a joke, there was no harm to my health!? Then I really had no choice but to be at ease!

...huh? Eh... that meant...?

“Um... in another word this is the milk power of the mead... right? It's true that it is somehow a strong addictive but... why are you using that?”

After I inquired him in that manner, the Chef Head sat down on the chair slowly and answered me.

“I understand it in the previous cooking match that my dish lacks ‘love’. Since Odin-sama had mutter the word love by himself. That's why in order for me to understand more about this love, I accepted the love from Heizu that she keeps pressuring me....”

“Accepted the love... don't tell me you had become one!?”

“I did not do that! I swear to the God! But I did promise her on that in the future. When I discuss with her about using an extract from the love in my meal, she suggested an idea of using the mead powder. But she pressured me on the condition of using that as an experiment is to marry her, I was unable to reject her... so to me it's a powerful poison even though I am aware that it was a seduction from a demon. Damn... if you had encouraged me earlier I wouldn't made such a hasty decision like this, ah!”

The Chef Head covered his face with his left hand, there was a spark from the expensive engagement ring on the ring finger.

I see.... It was not like the Chef Head was planning to do anything bad like a revenge since he lost to me. It was just that... the Chef Head had went toward the direction that was out of his expectation in order to made a better meal since he had lost to me in the cooking match.

“I don’t see any harm to it. You can at least wait until she become an adult right?”

“No matter how long I wait, the gap in our age still remain! I bet the public will say thing like ‘Hey, perverted Chef Head, are you going to enjoy an all you can drink full course tonight as well?’, ‘As expected of the lolicon chef head, he is quite skilled in handling his knife at night.’ Or ‘Hey, the live scum of the society Chef Head, when are you going to create a new menu?’ !!”

Ouch, it seemed this was getting worst. What an amazing persecution complex he had. Well... it was quite scary since it had become a reality now...

“Hey, Sei-kun, is there a method for me to cancel our engagement now? Let’s think together on the method that will not hurt Heizu and at the same time, a method where I won’t get killed either! Ah, that’s right! Loki-sama, you are quite skilled in quite these type of stuff right! Please lend me...”

At that time, the words of help from Chef Head that seemed like it would continue forever suddenly came to a halt. I looked toward the Chef Head since it seemed something had happened, the thing that he was looking at —

“What are you talking secretively... darling.”

Heizu who was filled with love, anger and sadness could be found there. Yup, if I had to put it... the dark aura from her was seriously bad.

“Darling... do you dislike marrying with Heizu?”



“No, that’s not it! It’s not like I dislike it but? Heizu is quite cute and there is a lot of people misunderstood this due to inadequate explanation but you are quite smart too. You are such a fantastic female that will be a waste on someone like me!”

“A waste? Then, it’s the perfect for Darling. You always said this right? You had to paid attention to expiry date since I won’t forgive the act of wasting.”

Ah... I also realized that he always said that. Treat all food ingredient with the utmost respect, those were the words that the Chef Head was quite familiar with.

“Hey Darling. You won’t treat Heizu feeling poorly right? Hey... can you bring out your ring.”

“Ring? Like this?”

While saying that, the Chef Head hold out his ring finger with the engagement ring on it. Then, Heizu line up her ring together with the ring finger, and whispered in a sweet manner with the upturned eye.

“Let’s get married?”

“I’m fine with it!”

You were fine with that!

“Ah, no, that... argh, Sei-kun and Loki-sama, what should I do!

“As if I know! For god’s sake, I thought that was something bad for a moment but to think that it was just an act. It seemed like And trouble is not so big, how about we take our leave now?”

“That’s right.”

We walked out while sighing and shrugging our shoulder. Chef Head, may you be burst open with your everlastingly happiness.

“Okay~, then where should we use our rune?”

After we went out of the kitchen, Loki started to think of a place where he could chant the rune magic.

The rune of 'rad' that Loki was planning to use now was a rune for teleporting, so it was not like it was an offensive type of magic. It was a magic that can be chanted as long as the place was wide enough but... unfortunately at this time, there was a lot of pedestrian traffic in 'Valhalla', so it wouldn't be easy to use it."

"The Einherjars are quite restless since it close to the starting time for the practice. What should we do, it will be a big trouble if they were teleport to 'Helheim' together with us..."

"If that really happens, it won't end as a big trouble alone. As expected, even though it's quite troublesome, it seems we have no choice but to step out of 'Valhalla'."

While cracking his head, Loki walked toward the entrance off the main entrance. I began to dash in order to catch up with him but, somehow even the entrance was full of Einherjars.

Woah, that couldn't be help. That was because there was a totally of two hundred thousand of them. This was really a bad timing for us.

"Tch, it seems pointless no matter where we go on the ground. Let's jump, Sei. Let's jump up to the building."

At the same moment when Loki said that, he carried me under his arm and jumped toward the top of the palace by leaping on the ground and the wall. With a thud and his waving mantle, a super hero had arrive on top of the roof. It was so cool, I hoped that I could do such an exaggerating action one day.

"This is my first time on top of the roof but it seems that the roof is really made by putting several large shield together. I wonder how many shield was used for this."

"Hmm? I never bother with that stuff at all. Putting that aside, Sei look there, the view is quite nice. We are able to see 'Vingólf' from this spot."

After following the sight from Loki who was smirking, it was true that we were able to see the Goddess dorm, 'Vingólf'. Even though my room is at the top floor, it seem that the view is quite different at the roof.

"Hey Sei, if I were to change into a hawk or an eagle now, doesn't that mean

that I will be able to see everything inside ‘Vingólf’?”

“!! That is true... they did said that an eagle or a hawk possess quite a sharp eyesight! What should we do!? Should we try it!?”

“Okay, let’s try it out! On the count of three? One, two, three, ‘mannaz’.”

“Sei-san, Loki-sama. What are you guy doing here at this spot?”

““Argh!?””

A voice suddenly came out from the back of us. Both of us gave out the shout of surprise together and looked behind. What we saw there was Brynhildr-sama which was descending on the roof while knitting her eyebrow suspiciously.

“Um... Brynhildr-sama! That.... that’s not it, we are definitely not planning to do any bad at all!”

“You fool, in fact didn’t you just go and reveal all of it! Hey, Brynhildr, we are not like that, we are just planning to go to ‘Helheim’.”

“‘Helheim’ is it? If that is the case, aren’t you suppose to use the rune of ‘rad’ instead of the rune of ‘mannaz’?”

She was clearly attacking us with the sharp gaze and voice of her. This was seriously bad, what should we do to escape from this situation.

“... hey Sei-san. It doesn’t seem like you are planning to do anything bad but... if that is true then you should be able to answer me honestly right?”

“Um... of course. To be honest, that... we really did plan something like that.”

“I am happy that you answer me honestly. So, what exactly are you planning?”

“Ah, no, I sorry but I am unable to explain with one word...”

“Huh?”

This... this was bad, this had totally become something suspicious already. Even if Brynhildr-sama was an owner of a pure heart, she had probably started to realize my gentleman mask.

“Hey, Brynhildr-sama, you shouldn’t jump to conclusion that fast. We thought that if we were able to transform into Sleipnir then we will be able to run to ‘Helheim’. We can exercise at the same time also.”

“No, that is not something normal. It’s not like you are Sei-san who was able to transform into Fenrir.”

“That’s why if I cooperate with Sei, then we might be able to do that right?”

“That... that is true! Please excuse me for my rudeness, Loki-sama, that is not something that I am able to think of.”

Woah... wasn’t Brynhildr-sama too... pure? I wondered how we managed to get out of this with such a poor excuse. At this moment, this was convenient for us but I was more worry about your future instead...

“From the start, why do you want to go to ‘Helheim’? Since that is not a place for a living being to freely going in and out right?”

“Ah, that is because—”

I immediately explained our current situation to Brynhildr-sama after changing the topic the moment she was convinced with our answer. Since Brynhildr-sama had already awared of the plan to release Fenrir, so there was no problem for me by doing this.

After hearing that, something unthinkable came out from Brynhildr-sama.

“The heart of a dragon... heart... of a dragon.... Ah! If that is the case, I had a clue on that!”

“Eh, is the true!?”

Loki and I exchanged looks without even thinking. Brynhildr-sama used her index finger to touch her forehead, and began to speak of her past memory.

“That is something that happen three hundred and sixty... no two hundred years ago. It was around the time when I was still trapped in the flame building of ‘Hindarfjall’, the human hero, Sigurd who arrived there was proudly proclaim this. ‘I beheaded the greedy evil dragon and burn its heart to kill it.’—”

“Burn the heart...? In another word, a dragon really do possess a heart after all!”

Loki grabbed his fist while saying that in a excited manner. I see, we had forgotten about it but we still had a choice to hear it directly from Sigurd himself. As expected of Brynhildr-sama.

“Thanks for the information Brynhildr-sama. Then, where is Sigurd now? It’s not like he is still alive and he is not one of the Einherjars also... I guess we really do need to go to ‘Helheim’?”

“Yes. A few year after he depart from the flame building, he was involve with a conspiracy and got himself assassinated...”

“...assassinated...”

To think that the end for the great hero of the dragon slayer was being assassinated...

Since he did not die honourably, he was unable to be invited to ‘Valhalla’ as an Einherjar, so he was the strongest heroic spirit that fallen into ‘Helheim’ as a deceased. I wondered what was his current feeling when he was serving in the darkness of hell.

If we were able to meet up with him, then he would be able to answer our various question. Only he knew about it including the thing that Brynhildr-sama heard in the past.

Then, at that moment. As if some feeling swelled up to her, Brynhildr-sama said this with a firm decision.

“Um... Loki-sama. If you are planning on going to ‘Helheim’ then can you bring me along with you?”

“Hmm? I don’t mind but... don’t you need to do your mission?”

“That is true but I only need to search for Helmwige who hidden somewhere since she is going to skip out on her mission again today. Since that is the case, since it had been a while I would like to him also... Sigurd that is.”

Brynhildr-sama immediately looked back toward Loki eyes and said those word sincerely.

I wondered what she was going to tell Sigurd after she met him. What kind of existence was Sigurd for her and hers for Sigurd.

I wondered why... I somehow felt a pain in my chest when I thought about that. This pain was... was it because I was jealous?

(...Don’t be a fool. After getting help from various people, I finally became

somehow of a hero boar right? As a hero, I don't have the time to be jealous over Brynhildr-sama affair.)

That right. It was impossible for me to said this out. Before you thought who about that, you should face the reality first, Saehrimnir. Since she did not belong to me and I did not belong to her —

I swayed my head lightly to shake off the feeling of defeat that swelled up from my heart. At the same time, I saw a certain illusion.

“?”

A black sediment slowly seep out from my body and it headed toward Brynhildr-sama. That black sediment stop the moment when I switched my feeling.

“What... was that... just now?”

“? What's the matter? Sei-san.”

“Nothing...”

Brynhildr-sama called out to me after she notice that I was blinking repeatedly. I waved my front leg to make an appeal as if nothing happened in order to ease her worry.

“Okay. [[I worship you the skull of Ymir; Kiss his body. I will now dig up this constant and unchangeable majestic Omniscience. I revere the fleeting shifts and changes of the world, and I will indicate the patter of the unknown, the transition, circulation and stagnation! The fifth rune of Futhark, Rad!]]

The rune magic was successfully activated after Loki chant it. After we were surrounded by the light of rad that extend up to the sky, we headed to our destination. To ‘Helheim’... the land of dusk that was govern by death, darkness and ice.

Valhalla no bangohan Volume 4 Chapter 2

Chapter 2 – The Colour of the legendary Siegfried

After Loki activated the rune of rad, the light of transition extend up to the sky.

We arrived at the underworld 'Helheim' as if we were guided by the light. This was the country for the dead as mostly living being would arrive once they die.

"Shiver... it's cold as always. As if I could get a cold in this instant..."

I thought of this when we visited last time but the coldness of this world was not normal at all.

This coldness that was shrouded in the darkness, the ground was cracked and the fallen boulder become pure white from the falling snow. The plant were frozen down to its core and it became a magnificent ice sculpture. When we were teleporting, if Loki didn't cast the rune of sowelu (warmth) on us, I believed that we had become frozen food right now.

"This is... is there any chance that this is 'the spring of Hvergelmir'?"

Among this silence that had gathered, Brynhildr-sama muttered a few words.

I also started to look around me after I heard that and it seemed that we were inside a dim cave. There was a divine space created with the slight reflection from the ice spring.

There was no mistake of it. This was the location when we fought the evil dragon Nidhogg during the accident to collapse the world tree.

"During that accident, I deliberately craved the rune of 'rad' here so we can

only teleport to this place. I did this when Sei was fighting Nidhogg alone.”

“Loki... to think that you were doing this when I was trying my best while dying...”

This shocking truth that was revealed now. I felt less motivated after hearing that but I'd forgive him if I thought that we were able to enjoy our trip to 'Helheim'.

Based on what I heard from Brynhildr-sama previously, it seemed that the rune of 'rad' was no omnipotent at all. That was because even if we had been to that place before, it seem that we could only teleport to the location where the rune was craved in the end.

“But this is strange. To be honest after that incident, I came here once and same as last time, Nidhogg is missing. I wonder did he move to somewhere else after giving up on living at 'the spring of Hvergelmir'.”

It was exactly as what Loki say, I couldn't sense the presence of Nidhogg in 'the spring of Hvergelmir' at all. If he was here, we would be able to discuss with him but...

Well, let's just put that aside. If it was about the heart of the dragon, I believed that could be solved immediately if we asked the great hero, Siegfried.

“Brynhildr-sama. What should we do in order to meet with Siegfried?”

“Let's see... if it's him, he would mostly be doing forced labor somewhere in 'Helheim'. We will know about it if we ask the queen of 'Helheim', Hel-sama.”

“Ah, that's right. If that's the case, how about we head there right away? To the mansion where the Queen Hel lives, 'Eljudnir'!”

“? Loki, aren't you being a bit too excited?”

“Hmm, is that so? Well, I don't see there any problem! Then, the mansion is over here!”

Loki took the lead in an annoying lively manner and we headed toward the north of this frozen land. The place we were at now, 'the spring of Hvergelmir' was at the east side of 'Helheim' and it seemed that our destination, Hel-sama mansion was located at the north east side of 'Helheim'.

“Hm... of all place it had to be at the north direction...”

—Deep underground the human realm ‘Midgard’, a straight huge chasm, ‘Ginnungagap’ could be found.

The land that was on the north part of that chasm was known as ‘Helheim’. In another word, it was located at the most north part out of all the nine world. Normally, if we headed toward the further north part of that world, it would be treated as a suicide attempt.

Why? That was simple. Opposite of here which was on the south of the chasm, a scorching hot land, ‘Muspellzheimr’ could be found and it helped to maintain the balance of the weather of the world.

If we headed toward the north— in another word, the further we were from ‘Muspellzheimr’, the further we were from our warmth.

The further we walked, the colder it was. This frozen scenery remained the same. The uneasiness of me when thinking that we might get stranded started to become bigger in my head.

“...! Hey, look over there!”

We started to see a flickering red light in that direction. There was numerous lighting from the burning brazier... in another word, it meant that there was someone living in that building.

“Fuu~ I would like to thank you two for your effort, we had arrived at our destination.”

All of a sudden, Loki stopped his movement and gave a smirk while looking in front of him.

The thing that was standing there was a big blood stained metal gate. Once I looked at the door, my body started to tremble as I began to feel something other than the cold.

My body reacted to it before I could start to think about it. This palace that was colder than death was —

“Welcome, partner. To the mansion of the queen that ruled over the death ‘Eljudnir’.”

In that moment, the gate started to open as if that voice was the signal.

A lukewarm air flew out from the space that was produced by that. The air pass through as if it was patting the nape of my neck which caused me to shout out unexpectedly in a pathetic manner.

“Argh, it’s so warm~!”

That air was something like a paradise to me! What the heck was this, wasn’t it so warm that made it easy for a people to live with! I immediately forgot about the fear that I felt just now and without giving a second thought, I rolled inside the mansion.

“Ku ku ku! Of course. If a cold place remains cold, even a deceased will die. So, you should come in too, Brynhildr. You can be at ease here.”

“Yes... Hm, to think that ‘Eljudnir’ is a mansion that had such a warm atmosphere. It seems that I had made a small mistake on this.”

After Brynhildr-sama who entered with a bewildered face, the door of the mansion closed automatically.

Well~ I had the same opinion as Brynhildr-sama. I thought that the mansion for the queen of death gave off a cold impression on my own but... that was not true at all.

The extravagant chandelier, the soft red carpet and even the wall had a magnificent banner. All of them were in warm color which gave off a warm feeling just from the look of it.

“The rune that was written on the banner is, sowelu right? I see, that mean that this building, ‘Eljudnir’ had tons of rune of protection carved on it.”

“You have a pretty good eyesight, Brynhildr-sama. That right.”

While saying that, Loki released the rune of sowelu that was casted on us. After he gave out a big stretch, he started to dash toward the inner part of the mansion. Hm... it had a feeling that he was doing as he pleased as if it was his own house but maybe Loki got used to commuting in here?

Then, in that moment when I thought of this question.

“Um... dear guest! It will be a problem if you walk on your own... oh, isn’t this

Loki-sama! I would like to welcome you since you had come from afar! But, this time... did you made a proper appointment?"

"‘Ganglot’ is it? Is an appointment something necessary? For my case."

"No, that is out of the question! But my master will get angry if you came here all of a sudden and she will be angry at me..."

Out of nowhere, the maid sister gave a miserable response. Is her name, Ganglot? For some reason it sound quite cool.

Long black hair, bright red iris, tan skin and the long pointed ear... based on her body feature, it seem like she is a ‘Svartálfaheimr’. Maybe this is my first time meeting a dark elves...

In that moment, I met eye contact with her while I was staring fixedly at her.

"Oh? This boar is... thank you for your gift, Loki-sama! I will made gibier as tonight dinner right away!"

"No no, you wrong! I’m not a souvenir at all! Since I am a respectable companion of Loki!"

"An offering?" (Companion and offering had the same wording)

"Com-pan-ion!"

"Ah~ I see, you are an attendant to Loki-sama! Is the person over there an attendant as well?"

After saying that, Ganglot-san gave an intensive look toward Brynhildr-sama. Brynhildr-sama gave a slight bowrd to show the meaning of affirmation.

"I... I am sorry for being so rude! I am Ganglot, the maid servant for the Queen Hel-sama. I believe that there is no need for me once I had gave you my guidance so it will be fine even if you don’t remember the name of this valueless existence!"

"What a pitiful self-introduction...."

I unexpectedly felt sad toward the personality of this admirable supporting character. Well, it seemed the only merit was that the person herself didn’t realize about this.

“Come, please come here! I will guide you to the audience room!”

Ganglot extended her hand toward the corridor and guided us in a cheerful manner.

But... I didn't know of it at that time.

That she exceeded my expectation as a valueless existence...

“Haa... haa... it's here, I am pretty sure this time! That this is the audience room!”

“Um... no matter how you look at it, this is a toilet but... how strange, are we the audience to someone excretion?”

— An hour had pass since Ganglot began her guidance.

We had walked all over this huge mansion and we kept looking at the toilet of this mansion. If I had to count it, it had exceeded ten time.

“Aren't... aren't all the toilets seem so clean since I took time to clean it properly?”

“That is truth but if it's possible, I wish that you can bring us to our destination right away.”

“... I somehow understand how big this mansion is since there is more than ten toilets but the truth is... I don't know the route to the audience room from the entrance...”

As expected. If that was not the case, it was impossible for her to get lost for an hour in her daily work place.

“But on the other hand, it seems that you are quite knowledgeable about the toilet?”

“That is not the case, if I am not knowledgeable about it, it will be hard to find one during a function! Since it was seriously a close call during that time!”

“What function is it and what do you meant by close call!”

No, I could sort of guess what it was without needing her to answer it.

But we were in a bind right now... since we had no idea which part of the mansion we were at right now thanks to Ganglot. Since this was the case, it was

even difficult for us to return back to the entrance...

“Let’s see, it almost time.”

“Huh?”

The sudden mutter from Loki cause me to look up unexpectedly. Then, I could see a young guy walking toward us from the corridor in front of us.

“It’s been a long time, Loki-sama. I had come to meet you since the preparation for the meeting had completed.”

The guy who dressed strictly in the black tailcoat, lowered his head respectfully. He also had the same feature of the Svartálfaheimr. The atmosphere around him was the direct opposite but perhaps this person was...

“Wah Onii-chan! You had come to help us.”

“...Ganglot. I told you for a numerous time that you should stop talking in a casual manner. Do you plan to cause trouble to me who is your brother?”

“I’m... I’m sorry Onii-sama.”

Ganglot shrank as she was scolded by the guy who seemed like her brother.

Putting that aside, he did not forgotten the after care. After he gave her a pat on her head while she was looking down, he immediately looked at Brynhildr-sama and me.

“It seems that this is our first time meeting in regard to Loki’s companion. My name is ‘Ganglati’ and I had swear my loyalty to Queen Hel-sama as a servant. I’m please to make your acquaintance.”

Ganglati-san closed his eye and while folding his right hand to make an L-shape, he gave a proper bow. That artistic behavior gave me a feeling that he was an earnest butler.

“Then, had Hel finish with her preparation? It seems that it took quite a long time this time.”

During the journey to the audience room for sure this time, Loki asked Ganglati-san on his honest opinion.

“In order to answer Loki-sama, I would like to let you know that my master is

quite a busy person. Normally, if you came here without an appointment, you won't be able to meet her in a moment notice."

"Tch, as always you are a guy that likes to lecture people. Since I am aware of that, while waiting, I gave in to being lost with your sister in order to kill time."

"I would like to apologize on that embarrassing matter. I had given my sister a test to see whether she is able to guide the guest to the reception on her own."

"Huh!? I... I was being tested without even realizing it!?"

"Yes. It's a pity but the result is below the passing mark."

"Argh!"

Ganglot held her head and crouched down. Hel-sama might unexpectedly have had a big heart since she was willing to use a person like Ganglot as her maid servant.

Then... we had arrived in front of a remarkably large door in the meantime. This heavy and stiff atmosphere I felt, without even asking I understood that this was the audience room.

On... on the opposite of this door, the Queen of Death, Hel-sama was there... ah, I was so nervous.

"Master. I had brought you the guest."

"Understood. You may enter."

The voice that responded to the servant was unexpectedly younger than I thought. But despite that, it had a majesty personality that made me want to prostrate involuntarily.

The door in front of us opened with a creak and we saw a magnificent throne. But it seemed that a bamboo screen like thing was hanging there and we were unable to see the appearance of the queen.

I entered the room while imitating Loki and Brynhildr-sama and I knelt down properly without making a careless mistake. After Ganglati-san and Ganglot-san took position on the left and right of the queen, Hel-sama finally began to talk.

"It doesn't matter even if you lift your face up."

"Haha! What do you mean by it doesn't matter, aren't you the one who is

being formal!”

Loki said that all of a sudden and begin rolling up the cover that was covering her which expose the appearance of Hel-sama who was inside.

The color of the long hair that resembled Loki and the quite childish facial feature. The bare foot that was expose from the see through angel raiment was alluring that it took my breath away but the color was different as it was quite pale when compare to her upper half.

Right... it is as if her bottom half was dead...

“What!? You fool... to think that you went and destroy this solemn atmosphere right away! To think that you can’t even hold it for five minute, even though you are my father, you are also quite an unexpected disgusted person!”

Hel-sama was furious as the formal meeting had become a waste. No, anyone would be angry if such a disrespectful conduct was done all of a sudden.



“My bad. I had decided to play along since it seems that you were somehow in a high spirit but I am unable to restrain myself.”

“I doubt that you had any intention to restrain yourself! I believe that you were going to treat me like a child!”

The dispute had expanded all of a sudden. Huh? I knew that Loki was quite popular but... to think that he was an acquaintance with the Queen of the underworld, Hel-sama.

“Sei-san. Hel-sama is Loki-sama’s children.”

“Oh!?”

Brynhildr-sama whispered to my ear secretly. Her breath tickle my ear which caused me to say such an insolent word. I had no choice but to shout that out while all my fur stood up.

“That... that means that she is either the elder or younger sister of Fenrir?”

“! Ho ho, to think my honorable elder brother allows a boar like you to call him without any formalities. It seems that beast who is famed as a magic wolf had surprisingly become quite a mellow person.”

“If what you said is true then does that mean you are the younger sister of Fenrir?”

“That’s right. Since it’s pointless for me to hide it, I am also the eldest daughter of this trickster god, Loki.”

Woah, there is no room for doubt since she had said that on her own.

The strongest wolf and the Queen that governed the underworld that appeared from the prophecy on the destruction of the world... what the heck was this, it seemed that Loki family consists of quite some unexpected member!

“Ku ku ku! Were you surprise, partner! I am actually quite an amazing fellow?”

“Yes, you are indeed amazing! As expected of the number two of the god realm! It’s a bit late but, I wonder if it really okay for someone like me to

become your partner...”

“Come on, you can’t be abject now. Let think on the bright side. The moment when I had acknowledge you, you are no longer a normal person already.”

“Okay~... if you put it that way...”

Actually what was the trigger point that allowed me to catch Loki attention?

If I was not mistaken, he just had an interest in my dragon transformation only from the beginning. It seemed like that was something amazing but I was not able to boast it since I thought that it was something normal...

At that moment, a warm hand touch my back when I was worrying about this. The owner of that hand was none other than the Brynhildr-sama who was showing a gentle smile.

“There is nothing for you to worry about. It’s fine for you to be proud about this. Did you remember about this, Sei-san, on the accident that happen on the first day when you arrive at ‘Valhalla’?”

“My first day? Of course~ I will never forget about it. That is because I was burn to death due to an accident on my first day of work...”

I’d never forget about it. That day— I came to ‘Valhalla’ to become a meal but I died before I was even made into a meal.

Heizu who tried to make a flambé and failed which started the fire and Brynhildr-sama who was unfortunately trap in the fire. I tried to save the both of them alone but as a result I had delayed my escape...

“It seems that I am quite uncool right from the start... seriously, I am such a careless boar.”

“You’re wrong! The reason that you end up like that is because you tried to save Heizu-chan and I!”

Brynhildr-sama increased her tone halfway and I looked up toward her in an astonished manner.

“Sei-san, you literally gambled on you own life just to save Heizu-chan and I who were caught inside the unexpected firestorm. You were quite brave and it was an action that deserved to be praise. Even though you are such a small and

cute boar... but you look like a great hero to me in that moment. I truly... want to thank you from the bottom of my heart.”

While saying that, Brynhildr-sama light purple eye started to become a bit wet.

...To make the women that you loved to said that, I had no choice but to puff up my chest. I made a sound with my hoof gallantly in order to cheer up myself.

“Hmm? I am not sure about the detail but it seems like you are quite a trusty boar. Well, if that is not the case, you won’t be here anyway. So, my honorable father, since that had took some time, why don’t you tell me your affair immediately? It’s not like you purposely came here just to introduce one your few friends to me only right?”

Since it seemed that Hel-sama had a grave interest on the course of event, she asked Loki with an abusive language.

“Argh, that hurts me... well, there is one thing we would like to hear from you this time. The great human hero, Siegfried— do you know where he is?”

“Siegfried? Ah, the dragon slayer that had a bit problem in his brain. He is located at the mansion of the deceased, ‘Nastrond’ and he is also acting as the corps commander.

“Oh. That means we will meet him if we go to Nastrond.”

“That’s right! If that is the case, let’s go there right away Loki.”

“Right but... hold it! That is impossible!”

The sudden shout. Loki was showing a rare trouble expression for real as if he was saying ‘Damn it’ through his facial expression. What... what was it? Was there anything wrong with that?

“... We are unable... to go to ‘Nastrond’.”

“What’s the matter? Siegfried is just right in front us.”

“No... other than Siegfried, ‘both of you’ are also there...”

Both of you? What was that, why was he using the plural form? Was he talking about Brynhildr-sama and me?

“Ah, ignore what I said! Anyway, it’s impossible! Well you see, it’s hard to walk in the cold right? Moreover, we will have a long time once we met with Siegfried. Since there is no rune of ‘Sowelu’ carved in ‘Nastrond’, it will be much better if we call him to come here instead.”

“Well, that is truth. Since I am a busy person, I don’t have the time to accompany you any longer but I will lend you my reception area. If you plan to call Siegfried here, then do it in that room instead.”

After Hel-sama said that, she gave order to Ganglot-san and Ganglati who was standing beside her. Ganglati-san took out a small horn from his pocket and went out of the room while Ganglot-san guide us to the reception area. Of course, it did seem that we had lost our way but thanks to Loki who asked the route in detail beforehand, we managed to reach our destination without any problem.

“Brynhildr-sama. It seems that we will get to meet Siegfried-san soon.”

After I jumped to the comfy sofa in the reception area, I asked Brynhildr-sama who was sitting beside me.

“Yup, it seems that way.”

Brynhildr-sama answered me with a smile but her words were quite few. So, I tried my best to continue the conversation.

“What kind of person is he like?”

“Let’s see... I didn’t talk much with him but purely based on his appearance... he is a cool and hot-headed person.”

“? Which is it?”

“Maybe it’s because he dress in a cool manner and a passionate person. Anyway, he likes to boast about himself and he will be happy if you listen to him quietly.”

“He... he seems quite childish, the great dragon slayer...”

“That’s right. He is the direct opposite of the modest Sei-san.”

The direct opposite was it.... I wondered which type does Brynhildr-sama preferred the most. Putting that aside, instead of being modest, I might be more

of an abject person.

No matter what I said, I was a bit excited to meet him. I wondered if they could bring him here a bit faster~... but it's impossible for him to arrive this fast right?

—flash!

“Whoa!? What was that just now!”

A big earth tremor occur out of nowhere. After Brynhildr-sama picked me up since I lost my balance and fell from the sofa, she immediately unsheathed her sword and stood on the side of the window.

“! That is...!”

The voice of astonishment can be heard in the room.

Outside the window, there was a large dragon that was carrying a mansion while spreading its wing in the frozen darkness. There was no mistake of it. That fellow was the one that I had a fight while dying, the king of the thousand serpent—Nidhogg.

“Hmm? He he he... To think that the trickster god, Loki is here! And this woman is... I see, you are the elder sister of the Valkyrie. And... hii!? Booooar-sama!”

The moment he saw us who went out from the window, Nidhogg suddenly lied face up to show his obedience. Come on, it wasn't like you were a dog.

“Nidhogg, it's so rude of you to be so scared of me. Aren't we friend?”

“Ah, did I hurt your feeling!? Please forgive me! By all means!”

“...”

Sight, this dragon, I wondered what happened to cause him to become like this. Well I guessed there was no helping it since he was slash and stab excessively but....

“Oh. To think that you manage to instill fear into a dragon who is known as an immortal... who are you?”

At the moment, this was the first time I heard this voice. The voice come from

Nidhogg hand.

After all of us look at the owner of the voice at the same time, a shadow could be seen jumping up from there. After drawing an arc with the somersault and landed magnificent with his left hand on the ground while his right toward the sky, a mystery knight in full black plate armour appear.

Perhaps... don't tell me that he was...

"Sorry for keeping you waiting. Well, there is no helping it since I am a star performer. I am the living legend, no, the guy who will keep building his legend in the afterlife. The great dragon slayer, Siegfried... that is me."

After he took off his helmet that was decorated with fancy ornament, the great hero face was exposed.

The red hair and red eye as if it was a burning fire, the shiny white teeth and cool appearance. This handsome guy... he seemed quite young from his outer appearance but exactly how old was he when he died? Did he somehow manage to master a mysterious breathing technique?

"Thank you for your hard work, dragon. How about it? If you are fine with it, why don't you become my dragon knight?"

"Huh? Stop with the nonsense human. In order to fulfil my promise with the boar-sama, I just listen obediently to the order of Hel-sama only. I hope that you don't look down at me that much."

"What a boring reply, but I'm fine with it. That is because a dragon is a hindrance to me. I will grasp the victory by running in the universe with my body alone. That is my way of living as a guy."

"That is wrong since you had already die! ...then boar-sama, I will wait here while you finish talking with this fool."

"Ah... um... thank you."

Hmm... somehow I had a feeling that this great hero-san had a bit problem in his brain...

Instead of thinking about that, let's return to the room now. Since I jumped out of the reception without the protection of the rune of warmth, I was

freaking cold right now. The feeling of your warmth that was getting absorb by the surrounding was quite scary.

This seemed a bit rude but we, including Siegfried-san, returned to the reception area through the window. The one in the room was just Brynhildr-sama and me with Loki and Siegfried-san. We asked Ganglot-san to step out of the room for a while as she was only useful as a lost child.

“Okay then let start off with self-introduction first. I’m Loki, a member of the Aesir God Tribe. I’m am the number two of the God realm ‘Asgard’.”

“Oh. I see, you really are strong. I feel a tremendous magic power from you.”

“Thank you for that. Then, next is... it your turn Sei.”

“Ah, um... I’m Saehrimnir. Everyone call me by my nickname Sei. I am the boar that work as an ingredient an also as an apprentice chef in the palace which is known as ‘Valhalla’ in ‘Asgard’.”

“Hm... it seems that this boar can talk. But it seems that he is not so proficient with his words. I don’t understand what he meant that he is both the ingredient and also the chef.”

“No, that is literally the meaning. Since I am working as the ingredient also.”

“What...? That is nonsense, you should die when you get consume. Don’t tell me that you are able to come back from life?”

“Well, yes.”

After hearing my nonchalantly reply, Sigurd lost his expression and stood there. He pointed toward me while being speechless and he look toward Brynhildr-sama with awkward movement.

“Fu fu fu that is not a lie. He really did came back to life for numerous time.”

She answered in a manner as if she was somehow proud of it. Well, I also wanted to boast about it.

“I see... okay. Let put aside the theory, I will believe you since you put it that way. Since you are not the type of female that like to joke around. ...It’s been a while, Brynhildr-sama. I’m happy that we were able to meet again.”

“Indeed, it had been a long time, Sigurd. I didn’t ever thought that we will ever meet again,”

After answering it, both of them looked at each other without saying anything. I wondered what feeling Brynhildr-sama was having now. It was a pity but I am unable to imagine it at all.

But well if I got the feeling that there was wave of romantic comedy between them, I’d do my best to stop it immediately.

“Okay, I had understand your true identity now. Since that is the case, it’s my turn now. It just as my self-introduction just now, my name is Sigurd. People normally call me in deep affection and aspiration as ‘Siegfried’ (The great dragon slayer hero)!”

Sigurd said that while hitting his chest and giving a snort.

Siegfried Sigurd, I can’t believe that we were having a conversation like this. The strongest warrior in the history of the human realm ‘Midgard’ was right in front of us now.

“... I see, Sigurd. That is why we had come here to meet you.”

“Ho, that is... does that mean that you want to hear the story of when I became the dragon slayer?”

“That’s right. Long time ago, Sigurd, you told me about that right? The story of the battle between you and the dragon. I hope you can tell us that story in detail now.”

Brynhildr-sama lifted her waist a bit from the sofa and enquiry Sigurd-san with the previous merry feeling. After being asked, Sigurd-sama gave out a long sigh to assume importance and brushed his bangs and he say this while stood up energetically from the sofa.

“I see... is that so! Since you put it that way, then listen to this! The story of this great hero from A to Z until you will get sick of it!”

“Um... no, we are fine with the dragon slayer story only.”

“It’s a freebie! Come on, there is no need to for you to hold back with the extremely long story.”

Ah, he wasn't listening to us anymore...

Well, there was no helping it since he seemed like a person who liked to boast. Let's just listen to his story obediently.

"I... grow up without knowing my parent face. Since I was raised by a Dwarf blacksmith and he told me his name is 'Regin'."

Regin—-. Just yesterday, this name was mentioned by Witige-san.

If I thought about it carefully, that Regin was an amazing person. Since he was the master of 'Wayland'-san—who was the creator of the 'Victory Sword' that held the key to control 'Ragnarok'.

"Maybe it was naturally as he is quite an eccentric old man after living for a long time. I was trained in a stern manner by him and built my foundation as a warrior. But by the time when I was able to adequate strength to protect myself... Regin told me this. I had a special blood flowing inside of me, and I had to find an exploit that is suitable for it."

"Special blood... is it?"

"That's right Loki. My mother is the queen of a certain country and my father is also a member of the royalty. Moreover, my father is a great warrior that was favored by the god. Regin ordered me to slay a dragon in order to fulfil the hurdle of the exploit. To slaughter the greedy dragon in the old ruins of 'Gunitaheizu' and take all of his treasure. Of course that is the famous magic dragon, Fafnir."

"Fafnir... if I'm not mistaken, that is Regin's brother right?"

"Hm? Ah, that's right since Regin said it by himself. You sure are knowledgeable, boar."

"Not at all..."

Just like I thought, it was exactly as what Witige-san said. No, since Witige-san didn't heard this from Sigurd before.

But... I had a bad feeling about this. Even though he had turn into a dragon, to kill his own blood-related brother was a bit... was Regin really that desperate for the treasure? Why was it everyone was so desperate for the treasure....

“Since I was young at that time, I become hot-blooded by the vigour of braveness and went to challenge him immediately but I was unable to beat him. Since I was unable to put a scratch on him with a superficial sword, I tried to pierce his left chest but it didn’t work.”

Um... pierce his left chest...?”

Hm... then as expected, did that mean that Fafnir didn’t had any heart?

“In the first place, dragon is an immortal being. They had inexhaustibly life force that allow them to regrow their limp and tail after it was chopped off. But... no matter what type of living being it is, they will surely die if the head is chopped off. As this is a proof that it is not a completely immortal being.”

Yup, I understood it with my body already. It was a different case if I undone my dragon transformation but I was pretty sure that I was killed by Loki in that way while maintaining my dragon form.

“But that fellow neck is quite tough which cause me to face some difficulties chopping it off. Moreover, other than the heart, the brain of the dragon is also one of it weak point but that fellow wear the helmet, ‘The helm of terror’ that he made it himself. That is why I have no choice but to pierce his heart. How is that? Isn’t that a ridiculously difficult hurdle? For a dragon slayer.”

“Yes... to be honest, that is something hopeless for me.”

I wondered how the hero Sigurd overcame this hurdle. Somehow I had a feeling that the hint to the dragon heart was somewhere along that line.

“To know when to quit is also one of the trait of a hero. I immediately discussed with Regin after I returned. Then, Regin crafted two swords for my sake. One of the swords was a memento from my father that he repaired, the God sword ‘Gram’ and the second one was... the magic sword that was able to pierce through a dragon heart ‘Ridill’.”

Oh, ‘Ridill’! Finally, the name of the problem was reveal.

“I faced the magic dragon again with my two swords. By using ‘Gram’, I sliced off the dragon scale and by using ‘Ridill’, I managed to pierce through his heart... with this I finally managed to slaughter him.”

Hee~~... so, huh!? Wait for a moment, I missed this since it was said nonchalantly but just now... he did say that he pierced through the dragon heart right!?

“Wait for a moment! A dragon shouldn’t had a heart from the first place, how did you even managed to do that!?”

“Don’t have a heart? Ha ha, that is a big mistake, boar. Dragon do have a heart. But when I was aiming at his heart, due to his protective instinct, it was move to another part of it body. In another word, it’s not always in his left chest. But ‘Ridill’ is a magic sword that that will definitely find the heart and pierce it. Well since there is a magic casted on it that will stop the moving heart at the spot that was pierce.”

“Hoo, I see, to think there is such trick. Thanks, this is a big help for us!”

Loki smile while rubbing his chin.

The magic sword ‘Ridill’ that would stop the moving heart... somehow it seemed our next objective was to obtain that sword.

“Then? How will we get ‘Ridill’ now?”

“Beat me. There is no need for me to know what happens next after I killed it.”

While answering, Sigurd-san looked down with a gloomy expression. I see... based on what Brynhildr-sama told us, Sigurd-san was assassinated by someone and ended up with an unnatural death...

“But there is nothing for you to worry about. If you follow in the footstep of my heroic story, there is a chance that you might find it.”

After changing his gloomy expression to a bright one, Sigurd-san his both of his hand. Ah, it seemed that he really did intend to continue his story since he had declared it from the start...

“After I slaughtered Fafnir magnificently, I burned his heart so that he wouldn’t resurrect for a second time. But in that moment, I experienced an amazement change in my body. Do you know what it is?”

“As if I know that. Just cut to the chase and said it.”

“Okay, I see that you are quite interested in it. Let me said this first. The moment when I voluntarily licked the lard-like that dropped on my finger from the heart, yes exactly in that moment. Somehow I obtained the power to understand the language of the wildlife! Then, the Parus Major whispered to me that my foster father was after my life! He planned to assassinate me so that he would be able to take the numerous treasures that I brought back to him after I defeated the magic dragon!”

(... Brynhildr-sama. Isn't that a reckless remark of him, so that he will be able to hog all the treasure...)

(Ah~... that might not be true, but it's a fact that he is able to hear the voice of the animal.)

“Both of you! I am getting to the good part so please refrain from having private talk!”

Argh, it seemed that he was quite angry at our secret talk. Unexpectedly this great hero had quite a sharp ear...

“The night after my triumphal return... it's true that Regin tried to attack me while I slept. It was needless to said but I struck back and chopped off his head and headed out on a journey to gain more achievement. Right after that, I met with the blue Valkyrie— Brynhildr-sama.”

“!!”

What!! The story from now on was something that I personally had an interest in!

I'd put all my effort in to listening to this episode that I had waited!

“During my journey, I heard a certain rumour. In the spiritual mountain ‘Hindarfjall’, there is a mansion that was surrounded by fire... and there is a beautiful women sleeping inside it.”

“And that is Brynhildr-sama!”

“Keep your mouth shut, boar! Since there is a procedure for the story!”

“I'm soooooorry!”

Hii, It seemed that I made him angry again. I had to behave myself since I

wouldn't be able to hear the story if I spoiled his mood.

“But only a person with true bravery can overcome the fire that surrounded the mansion. In order for me to test my own qualification, I headed toward that mansion. Then... once again I had reconfirmed that I was an awesome hero. After I overcame the fire easily, I found the woman who was sleeping with the countless of shield as if it was to protect her inside the mansion. And that was Brynhildr.”

“That's right~ it's quite nostalgic. But Sigurd, isn't it a bit cruel for you to destroy all the shield without leaving any intact. Do you know that that it was my sacred treasure? Because of that, I am troubled since my God Technique is not completely perfect now.”

“Well, there is no choice since I wasn't aware of it. In the first place, why were you sleeping in such a place? I didn't care much when I was young but I am a bit interested in it now.”

“Well, that is... that is because I... went against Odin-sama order.”

While fixing her sight at the carpet, as if she was wring it out Brynhildr-sama answered us.

Huh? Perhaps was this... an opportunity to hear Brynhildr-sama past?

“In the past, I followed Odin-sama order and went down to the human realm ‘Midgard’. Then, I was supposed to do some secret manoeuvres so that I could invite a specific person as an Einherjars. The name of the person was ‘Sigmund’. In the human realm that time, he was the boasted as the strongest swordsman of the Volsung tribe.”

“Hmm? What a coincidence. Isn't that my father?”

“Eh? ...Eeh!? Is that the truth!?”

The shocking truth that was reveal at this time. It seemed that Brynhildr-sama was an acquaintance to the real father of Sigurd. Somehow... this world was quite small...

“Ha ha, it's just something trivial, do continue.”

“Tri... trivial? Well, if you put it that way since you are his son.... Um... so, my

objective was to have Sigmund die in a battle. Sei-san, you are aware of it right? Since that is the job of a Valkyrie.”

“Of course. I saw it when I accompany Gerhi-sama on her mission previously.”

In order to be invited to ‘Asgard’ as an Einherjar, the target warrior would need to die in a battle. In a way, that was something terrifying but... to the warrior who was invited, it was without a doubt that this was something honorable for them, so most of them were quite delighted by this.

“But... that time, the friendship between me and his wife, ‘Hljod’ is not as weak as you thought. She strongly wish for her husband to stay alive and I... ended up listening to her wish. I let Sigmund escape from the battlefield that was purposely created by Odin-sama.”

“Hee~ this is something unexpected. To think that Brynhildr-sama who was always loyal to her mission went against Odin-sama...”

“This... this is an embarrassing matter to me. I think it because that I was still naïve at that time...”

It seemed that Brynhildr-sama was really embarrassed as she curled herself up.

Ah, I wanted to see it. Even though she was maintaining her current youth thanks to the effect of the golden apple but I wanted to see it with my own eye the time when her mental was still immature.... I wondered if Siegrune-sama or someone that had a high magic proficiency, had a grand spell that can send me back in time?

I’d ask her when I had the chance next time, for now, I had to concentrate on Brynhildr-sama story.

“Odin-sama who was furious on the fact that I disobeyed him, he took away my divinity. While I was unconscious, I was placed in ‘Hindarfjall’ and a certain curse was placed on me. The curse was that I had to married the first person that wake me up and stay with him for the rest of my life. At least it was a blessing for me that the mansion was surrounded by the fire. So that the person that I’d be wed with wouldn’t be a worthless fellow...”

“Understood, to think that Brynhildr-sama had such a past... eh, marry!?”

Um..., diiiid you do it!? I mean marriage!!”

Whoa! This was something that I couldn't ignore! To think that my Brynhildr-sama had already be wed...!

“I... I did not do it! I did not get married at all! Since before I had the chance to inform Sigurd about the curse, he immediately went off to his next adventure.”

“Huh!? What the heck are you thinking, Sigurd!? If you are aware about that, you can get marry right away!! If it was me, I will first take advantage of this and”

“Hey, calm yourself down, Sei! You do aware that you had just said something unthinkable right!?”

“Haa! ... Thank you for stopping me, Loki that was a huge help...”

That was close, I almost exposed an action that was unworthy of a gentleman.

“Take advantage of this and...?”

Huh? For some reason, Brynhildr-sama seemed quite interested on the latter half....

No! That was not something that I should said! If I told her firmly, Brynhildr-sama would feel reluctant and leave.

“... It seems that we went a bit off track but let's continue back to my heroic story. I who was not interested in the affectionless wedding caused by the curse, I started on journey to look for the clue to dispel the curse that was casted on Brynhildr. In the midst of that, I was involved with the war between the Hun and the Burgundians, I crossed sword with that 'Black Sword Saint' but...the journey was roughly going as plan.

The Black Sword Saint! I see, it seemed that it was around that time that the battle between Sigurd and Witige-san ended up in a tie.

“But my planned journey ended there. It happened exactly when I approached the riverside of Rhine. After I was invited to King Gjúki castle who governed that area, I made a blunder as I drank the drug of forgetfulness. As a result of that, I lost the purpose of my journey and I served the prince 'Gunnar' as a clown. He wanted me to introduce him to the lady in 'Hindarfjall' — in

another word, Brynhildr but... right after that... I was killed.”

“Eh... why did that happen...?”

I believed that Sigurd was unable to answer what happened afterward even if he tried to think about it. Instead of Sigurd, the one who answered my question instead was one of the related party that time, Brynhildr-sama.

“Due to Gunnar who broke the rule when he proposed to me, the curse activated by itself in another different manner. If this continue, one of us between me, Sigurd and Gunnar must die. The moment when he heard that, he immediately stab Sigurd without any hesitation.”

What... to think that this happen.... That Gunnar was really the worst guy...

“Due to the death of the ‘Destined person’ who was the one who woke me up, the curse was lifted and I was able to regain back my divinity. Gunnar who did such an extremely inhuman act was sentence to ‘Helheim’ and I returned back to ‘Asgard’ but... it seems that all of the heritage of Sigurd was given to King Gjúki, then I heard that the royal family was destroy in just a short moment.”

“Huh, destroy? Don’t you mean prosper? Is it because they were in possession of the heritage of the great hero?”

“Yes. It was a gruesome end to both the royalties and the citizen. According to Gerhilde who went to inspect it, all of the corpse didn’t remain in their usual form.”

“Didn’t remain in their usual form? What do you mean by that?”

“... This is not something pleasant to hear. I was told that their skin rotted and fell off, their bone was melted and it changed into a swamp of death that gave out a strong stench.... It was as if it a condition where all the death in the world was condensed in that place.”

“!! Corpses that didn’t remain in their usual form... condensation of death... is it?”

“? What’s the matter, Loki...?”

In the midst of listening to Brynhildr-sama, Loki made a complicated

expression. I wondered what it was, maybe there was something that he had concern with.

“...Previously in the rebellion of the Einherjars... the mastermind, Beruze died in the same manner. His whole body was folded, rotten and melted. It was as if all the death in the world was thrown at him.... This... this is just a coincidence right...?”

While whispering something, Loki looked toward here through the gap of the palm that he used to cover his face.

I wondered what it was.... His eye was not looking just looking at me, but I had the feeling that he was looking at me with those extremely frightful eye as if it was trying to search for something deep inside me.

“... Well, let's talk after this afterward. Thank you, Sigurd. Thank to you, we were able to learn a lot of stuff.”

“Hmph, it's fine as long as what I said was useful to you. Then... since we had done here, it's about time for me to leave. Unfortunately, I am also quite busy until the degree that I didn't even have time to sleep recently.”

“Ah, I'm sorry for bothering you in such a trouble time. But may I ask what cause you to be so busy recently?”

“All of the guy in 'Nastrond' are making a boat. A huge boat name 'Naglfar'.”

“Hee... what are you planning to do with that?”

“We heard that 'Ragnarok' is approaching. That's why all of us in 'Helheim' can't be that easy going as well. If the time come, we might be foes as well right? If you don't like that, you are welcome to fall down to here as well. Since we are ready to work someone hard.”

Sigurd-san said that with his back facing us, a daring smile can be seen when he turned his face.

I heard that we would be fighting against the Jotun in 'Ragnarok' but I wondered would we be fighting against the military force of 'Helheim'. It gave me the fright just by thinking that the peerless great hero was our opponent. I'd pray with all I had so that wouldn't happen in the future.

“Loki, what is our next plan?”

I asked Loki who was the main planner for this. Then, Loki answered me calmly as if he had decided the next step.

“Of course, we will go and obtain ‘Rigel’. But... since the royal family who obtain Sigurd heritage is destroyed, it won’t be easy for us to get the whereabouts of the sword in ‘Midgard’. Thus, we should put that aside first and search for Regin himself in ‘Helheim’ instead.”

“Ah, Regin-san is it. He is the foster father of Sigurd-san right?”

“Yup. He is also the one who created the magic sword ‘Rigel’. Since he is the creator of ‘Rigel’, we can just ask him to create another one right?”

“That’s right! We still have that choice!”

I was sure that Regin-san was somewhere in ‘Helheim’ since he got himself killed when he tried to attack Sigurd-san. I was aware that she was quite busy but we had no choice but to ask Hel-sama on his whereabouts so that we could finish this task immediately.

When I was thinking about that, Sigurd shrugged his shoulder in an exaggeration manner and told us this.

“It’s a pity but that is not a simple task. Even though I was being used, he is still the guy who taught the foundation of a warrior. In order to meet him, I asked Hel for her help but... even that Hel told me that she didn’t know where Regin was. He is probably hiding somewhere while planning to do something bad.”

“Is that for real... he must be quite a professional since he is able to deceive the proud eye of the “Hidden Goddess’ of the underworld.”

Loki dropped his shoulder as if he had given up. Even though I said that, it wasn’t like we can afford to give up that easily.

“There is no helping it. Please leave Regin to me, Sei, you should return with Brynhildr-sama for now.”

“I can’t do that, let me help you out till the end. After all, the Chef Head said that there is still plenty of the preservative meat left.”

“It’s fine. I had already imagine the worst outcome that is I won’t be able to find him in the end, that why I want to request you to search for ‘Rigel’ when you return to the top. ...Will you take up me request?”

I see, this was a more effective method of splitting the task.

In term of the cooperation, there was no doubt that I’d help him. Thus, I immediately accepted Loki request.

“Even though I am involved in Fenrir affair, I am unable to do anything openly but... I will try my best to help also, Sei-san.”

“I would like to thank you, Brynhildr-sama!”

Whoa, I was quite grateful with that reassuring statement of hers! Even though I had declare impressively about this, there was still a limit on the thing I was able to do alone... at the same time, I was eager to spend the time with the two of us only!

Then, since we had decide on the next step, there was no point for us to stay here any longer. Brynhildr-sama and I rushed out of the room so that we could return to ‘Asgard’ immediately.

At that moment.

“By the way, Brynhildr. And the boar.”

At the same time when Sigurd-san planned to leave through the window, unexpectedly he called out to us. Then, he... said some tremendous thing.

“Actually recently, I had a feeling that I had seen you from a far in ‘Nastrond’ but... is there any chance that you had come here?”

“.....EEEEHHH?” x2

Both Brynhildr-sama and I shouted out in an innocent manner.

This was the second time that both of us had come to ‘Helheim’. I didn’t remember that I had ever came here after the battle with Nidhogg until today. But what did Sigurd-san mean when he said that saw us recently...?

I wondered how that happened. It was normal if he saw me since I was a normal boar but it was impossible that there was another that was as beautiful

as Brynhildr-sama. It was impossible that this was just an accidental resemblance only...

“I believe that it just an accidental resemblance only.”

Loki said that out of nowhere from the side. Those were the words that I was thinking right now but if I was unable to say it clearly, it'd just backfire at me.

But... was that the truth? I wonder... was it fine if we leave it like that...?

“Ah, I get it, if you are so interested of it, I will search for it. For now, you need to leave immediately. Since I had carved the rune of sowelu, you need to go back within the time frame of three hour. I will leave Sei in your care, Brynhildr.”

“Ah, yes! Please leave it to me!”

Loki uttered us to leave. Somehow that action seem a bit unnatural for me.

I wondered what the thing that Loki washiding from me.

I was interested about it but... I thought that it was not something major. That was because...

That was because this was the country for the deceased. Since this was an indifferent country for me who had determined that I wouldn't die.

Valhalla no ban gohan volume 4 chapter 3

Chapter 3 – The Color of the Ominous Gravestone

“Okay~! Let’s search for the magic sword, ‘Rigel’ today! Let’s go!”

The next day after we returned from ‘Helheim’. I who woke up with a wholehearted intention was fired up with the task that was given to me.

It wasn’t like I was motivated because it was a request from Loki. That was because yesterday, I was able to see that legendary great hero, Sigurd directly at the country of deceased, ‘Helheim’. So, it was impossible for me to remain calm after such a major event. But it was a pity when I thought that the Sigurd-san personality was somewhat unexpected....

On top of that, I was quite happy that when I heard that there was no special relationship between Brynhildr-san and Sigurd-san. The reason why I was so motivated right now might be because I was able to remove the thorn from my heart.

“To think that... to slay a dragon, we need the world sole magic sword which is the heritage of the great hero. Hmm, somehow it sounds quite cool when I said that! Even though I was requested to search for it, I personally would like to keep the sword for myself.”

Hold it, I couldn’t be merry right now.

I was pretty sure that Loki was also trying his best to look for Regin in hell too. Since that was the case, let’s make this a competition, I’d be able to surprise Loki if I was to find it earlier than him.

“Let’s see... where should I go first?”

I already knew what I should do in these type of situation. Instead of thinking this alone, it would be better to rely on your friends, then tons of idea would come flying out.

It was fortunate that right now I had a lot of reliable friends that I could depend on. For example, the Valkyries sister, the Valkyries sister and the Valkyries sister.

They were quite kind as they always helped to solve my problem with tender care even though they were busy with their own personal task.s Since they would really pat me if I requested for it, so I was pretty sure that they would fulfil my request regardless of the content!

“... I am just joking~. They won’t do it. As if they will pamper me that much. For this time I won’t have to be utmost impudence. That is because before I went to sleep yesterday, I was able to think of a proper plan.”

Hehehe, I was sure I said this before that I am a boar with an ability to learn. There was time where I could accomplish the given task alone— but on the times where I was unable, I’d have to rely on my friend. I couldn’t say that they were my friend no matter what if my existence always caused trouble to them.

Since that was the case... my destination right now was the rainbow bridge ‘Bifröst’ that connects the human realm with the God realm. Of course, my purpose was to go to the human realm ‘Midgard’ and visit the former site of the royal family of Gjúki.

“Since it seems that I wake up earlier than expected, this cause me to have plenty of time for today. Yesterday I had ask Ikusu to replace me for dinner tonight, so there is nothing that I had overlook! Let’s go! Toward the unknown journey of mine!”

After I had made my declaration gallantly and loudly, I immediately headed toward the path that I should I go.

But... my foot that was moving forward was stopped in just a short moment.

“You can’t Saehrimnir. I am unable to let you go any further.”

“Eehhh!?”

By way of the 'rainbow void' that I was used to, I finally arrived at 'Bifröst' since it'd been days since my last visit. But right after I reached there, the guardian of the bridge, Heimdall forbid me from crossing the bridge.

"Why can't I go, Heimdall! At least tell me the reason!"

"I am not sure of the reason either. But if I had to say it, that is because it the rule. Other than the Gods, I am unable to let any unauthorized personnel to go through. I also can't let anyone with knowledge of rune magic to go through without permission. In order to not cause any trouble to the people of the human realm."

"I understand the reason now."

Okay... Putting aside the detailed explanation, exactly what was the thing that he was unsure of?

But I got it now... I didn't thought that I was unable to leave 'Asgard' by myself. I managed to attain some achievement by myself but it seemed that I was just a dinner after all... since amazing people such as Loki and Ikusu had increased. It seemed that I ws a genuine extremities existence since I couldn't forgive myself that I was a burden with my strength alone.

"Hmm~? You are Pork-chan right? What are you doing in such place~"

!? This calm tone and the feature of the sexy onee-san voice... moreover, she called me as 'Pork-chan', there was only one person...

"Waltraute-sama!"

"Ah~ as expected, you really are Pork-chan. I was thinking what I should do if it was my mistake."

Waltraute-sama showed a gentle smile as a sign of relief. That smile of her was filled with the broad-mindedness and motherhood that was difficult to describe with words alone. She was the fourth sister of the Valkyrie and it was agreeable that she was the most elder sister like among them.

I wondered what she was doing in such a place at a times like this. It wasn't like I have a reason for not asking, so I inquired her in an honest manner that I thought of.

“Of course, I here because I have a task okay~? Onee-san is going to descend to ‘Midgard’ for a special service.”

“Special service? That means... that the current task is not related to the selection of Einherjar?”

“Oh, Pork-chan is quite smart~ That’s right. Does the smart Pork-chan know about this? Starting from the early dawn yesterday, there is a ‘miasma’ that started to spread throughout the world.”

“Um... miasma is it?”

That meant something like... an impurity air. Why was such an ominous thing started to spread all of a sudden? The world was quite peaceful after the rebellion of Einherjar...

“Odin-sama said it cautiously that it might be a prevention to ‘Ragnarok’. That’s why all of the Valkyries was tasked to investigate the miasma~. By the way, onee-san is in charge of the west side of “Midgard”~. Purification will be done if possible, if it was impossible then... it will be taken care of by force. I have one more partner for today that is suitable for that role.”

“Waltraute-nee-sama! I... I’m sorry for being late!”

In that moment, an awfully flustered voice could be heard descending down from the sky. That timid and the muffled voice belong to the eighth sister of the Valkyrie—

“Ah, as I expected it’s Grimgerde-sama.”

“Hii!? Se... Sei-kun!? What... what is Sei-kun doing here!? Even though Helmwig-nee-sama said that ‘Waking up early is a waste to the sleeping time’...”

What... what exactly was that person saying as if it was perfectly fine. Was she planning to create an original proverb?

“It’s not like I wake up early for no reason okay? I plan to visit ‘Midgard’ today but... Helmwig-sama said something unkind to me.”

“What? I did not say any unkind thing at all. Would it better if I had said it instead?”

“It’s fine without you saying it.”

“Then let me said it at an 80% manner.”

“Stop it! I am totally fine!”

“... I understand. I didn’t say any unkind thing to you.”

Ah, that was close. I wonder why this person was always like that. No, he did say before that he didn’t understand a joke.

“By the way, Pork-chan we have the same destination if your plan to go to ‘Midgard’~. Pork-chan, which part of ‘Midgard’ do you plan to go~?”

“The ruin of the royal family of Gjúki. Um... If I’m not mistaken, it’s somewhere near the river of Rhine right?”

“Eh!? That place ... isn’t that the place where the miasma is the most dense! Brynhildr-nee-sama and Gerhilde-nee-sama said that will be the last place we will go...!”

Um... I can’t believe that. To think that place was that dangerous now.

“... Pork-chan, can you tell onee-sama why you want to go there~?”

Waltraute-sama said that in an unusually docile manner. While being attracted to that, I answered in a slight vague way.

“I heard that the heritage of the dragon slayer great hero, Sigurd was once there. I am kind of... interested in that heritage.”

“Sigurd’s heritage? I see... so that explained why the reason Hildr-chan is tizzy~.... Hey, Pork-chan, that place is very dangerous right now. Until the time where all of the Valkyrie had gathered, will you accompany us to another place~?”

“Yes, it would be my pleasure. ...eh, in another word that means.”

“Yup. Onee-sama will get permission from Heimdall-sama just-for-you.”

“I understand.”

“That was fast!?”

To think that this guy was a guard! He immediately gave an OK when

Waltraute-sama gave a wink while pushing her breast! ...the affinity became short in an instant.

“Thus, I will depend on you Pork-chan for a while today. You too, Grimgerde.”

“Yes! I... I will depend on you for a strike today!”

Grimgerde-sama... she pronounced an unexpected greeting since she fumbled her word at such a weird timing, would I be really be okay since I gave a nod?

Well, putting that aside, with this I was able to go to ‘Midgard’ without any problem. I was unable to do anything with my strength alone from the beginning... but it was at a barely acceptable scope since I was not bothering on their task at my own convenience right?”

I had to try my best to be useful in order to repay this gratitude. I secretly made an oath in my heart.

Waltraute-sama, Grimgerde-sama and me crossed the rainbow bridge ‘Bifröst’ and arrived at ‘Midgard’. After that, we kept on flying toward the west—and we were at a place in the west.

An old ruin that was affected by the weathering could be found there.

It might been involved in war as the roof that was supposed to be there was gone and inside of it, there was many debris and rock fragment. The wall and the pillar was covered with the plant vine and destruction scar can be seen on it. It gave an image that a huge beast went berserk in this location.

“It seems that this ruin is actually~ known as ‘Gnitaheid’~”

“! ‘Gnitaheid’...!”

After listening to Waltraute-sama explanation, I began to look at my surrounding in a caution manner.

I see, this is ‘Gnitaheid’. A few hundred yes ago, this was the destined place where the great hero, Sigurd and the magic dragon, Fafnir had their repetition battle—

Speaking of the magic dragon, Fafnir, it seemed that my dragon form had the same image as him. In another word, it seemed that this place had a bit meaning to me.

“I plan to come here once but... since Waltraute-sama and Grimgerde-sama came here, does that mean this is one of the place that the miasma is spreading from?”

“Yup, that’s right. It’s not that thick since we are at the entrance~... hey Grimgerde-chan, do you think there will be something if we go deeper~?”

“It’s fine here... but there is a slight malicious smell at the back... maybe?”

After being enquiry, Grimgerde-sama answer with an unreliable tone. It seemed that she was sniffing like a dog but I was unable to confirm it since it was block by the mask.

“Isn’t the mask disturbing? I think it would be better if you take off the mask?”

“That... this is something I can’t do! I won’t take any responsibility if something like before happen!?”

Something like before—the moment when she said that, I got a chill from my back.

During the cooking match that happened previously, that wicked smile that chopped off my head without any doubt...

Ah, I actually wanted to see it.

“This is different from that time so isn’t it fine? No matter how violent you become, you won’t go around killing people indiscriminately right? Right, Waltraute-sama.”

“That’s right... we have no idea what will happen from now on... okay. It would be better if Grimgerde-chan is in a state where she will be able to go all out at any time~”

“Nooooooooo way~!

While showing a side smirk, Waltraute used her finger to sidle up to Grimgerde-sama. Grimgerde-sama was unable to escape to the left or right nor to take any step forward, in the end she was unable to move at all. It seemed like her fragile body was overtaken by the tremendous pressure from Waltraute-sama.

“There is nothing to be afraid, Grim-chan~, it’s not like I will hurt you, I will treat you gently okay~?”

“No! Don’t come near me, don’t, no, it will be taken...!”

I was somehow excited! Okay, that’s it! Right there!

“Hey you~ can you turn around? There is nothing for you to be shy since we are sister right?”

“But still, Sei-kun is looking at us...!”

“Isn’t that fine~ we should at least give him a bit of service~ Come on, if you keep focusing on hiding your face, you will be defenseless at the bottom~? Tickle tickle~!”



“Hii!? Not under my arm, since I am ticklish, aaah, I’m going to die!!”

What... what is this! It seem that Grimgerde-sama is on the verge of ascension due to Waltraute-sama amazing finger work! It’s so annoying! If only the mask is not there!

“It’s almost time for the finisher~ Grim-chan. I just use my hand to take the mask...”

“Hey. Don’t get over your head.”

“Argh!?”

Waltraute-sama fell backward toward the rubble after being push by Grimgerde-sama with one hand who suddenly change her tone. Since her right hand is holding the white mask firmly... this means that!

“Tch, you fool. We are not a spectacle. Do you want me to kill both of you?”

While fixing her bangs, her bright red eyes stare at us with an unfamiliar face.

Oh, it’s here! Grimgerde-sama real face that I only managed to take a peek last time! But somehow it seemed she was in a foul mood...

“I’m... I’m sorry Grimgerde-sama. But it’s not like I suggested that due to my curiosity?”

“Liar will have to swallow a thousand needle. Since I don’t have that right now, can you settle with a thousand batting practice? Of course, you will be the ball.”

“I did it due to my curiosity, so please forgive me!”

It... it’s so scary! This person is truly scary! Who was the one that suggest to remove her seal! Oh it was me!

“Gri...Grim-chan~, there is no need to be so angry, right? Since it will be a dangerous mission from now on. ‘You’ also don’t want the another Grim-chan to face any danger right?”

“That’s why you decided to push all the responsibility to me? Isn’t this funny, are your head so empty that it could fill cereal? Keep your sleep talk after you

go to sleep. Do you want me to help you if you prefer the eternal sleep course?

“No, it’s a pity but this is not nonsense. I believe that ‘you’ are aware of it as well? That there is the smell of miasma coming from the back?”

“.... Tch, it’s quite strong. It’s true that this might be too much for the outer Grim..... There is no choice, I will deal with it! ‘Werther Schwantz’!”

Grimgerde-sama said that in an unwilling manner and reeled in the darkness to her hand. That darkness took form and changed into the sinister looking big scythe that was seen previously.

“Okay, I’m in. But... I am only protecting Grim. First, I will focus on protecting follow by assisting but be careful not to get killed while I am assisting.”

While using her shoulder to support the big scythe, she put on her hood. What an elegant expression.... The inner Grimgerde-sama sounded rude yet cool, somehow this made me quite excited.

Okay, our exploration would start now. We couldn’t afford to stay for a long time since it quite dangerous.

Our action had to be careful and quick.

“Somehow... the inner part is dimmer than expected.”

In the inner part of the ruin, as a substitute to the collapse ceiling, the thick tree root coiled around the whole ruin, the strange feeling was getting stronger as we went deeper.

“This... is not really that dark appearance~. Since the miasma is pretty strong here. I guess that it a bit thin due to the protection from the Sun Goddess, Sola-sama....”

“This is just the beginning, Miss hurry. If you are rely on me then keep quiet and continue moving.”

As if we were being press by the Grimgerde-sama voice, we continue to go deeper and deeper. Then, our vision was suddenly open up since there was something that resemble a huge altar appear right in front of us.

This was... I believe that this was the deepest part of the ruin. There was no mistake that this altar was made up of Fafnir treasure.

“...hmm? Hey, that...”

“? What the matter? Pork-chan?”

“Ah, no, it’s nothing...”

When I looked at the top of the altar, I somehow saw the shadow of a person for just a moment.

But I guessed that is just a delusion. That was because I didn’t sense any presence from there anymore... that is because I am only able to sense someone like me from there. That was not possible since I am standing here.

While I shook my head so that I could shake off the delusion, someone pinched the nape of my neck.

The one who was doing that was Gringerde-sama.

“Woah, what... what’s the matter? Do you feel any danger?”

“If I had to said it, it’s dangerous. That’s why you need to stand back. Currently, Waltraute is trying to purify the miasma.”

Gringerde-sama looked toward the front while saying that and Waltraute-sama who was focusing could be seen standing directly in front of the altar. Then she took a big breath and spread her legs to be the same as her shoulder width while holding both her hand toward the sky—and she stomped on the floor with her left leg at full strength.

“God Technique—‘Fairstell Ken dance’”

The moment she said that from the sexy lip, a huge magic circle develop from underneath the Waltraute-sama foot.

The red Valkyrie began dancing on top of the dimly white wonderful stage. The tree root that was surrounding the ruin began to give off a glow as if it was matching the relax movement that was drawing a circle.

“What... the heck is this?”

“It’s the ‘dance of strengthening’. The object essence is brought out by the dance and it’s also a technique that strengthen the object in a various perspective momentarily. Waltraute is using that to increase the effect of the

purification. This will easily purify the miasma if it was normal but...”

Grimgerde-sama stopped halfway through her explanation and clicked her tongue lightly and closed her eye partly. After getting a bad feeling from her action, I quickly changed my sight toward Waltraute-sama.

“Argh, this is hard~ it seems like this child is useless.... Sigh, I thought I am able to appeal my good point to Pork-chan~”

Waltraute-sama stopped her dance and immediately retreated toward us.

But it seemed that her judgement to retreat regardless of the achievement was correct. That was because the temporary stage that she was standing up till now was already covered by a black sluggish shadow.

“It’s a consolation prize. Instead of helping, it seems my action had caused it to become angry. Since it possess feeling, that mean this this thing is alive.”

“What... what does that mean?”

“It’s a ‘curse’. This is not an impurity that was born from this world but it was born from the start to corrupt this world, this is a— sludge sediment.”

The moment when she said that, Grimgerde-sama threw my body to the back of her.

“Woah!”

From the look of it, that was a violence action but she did not do because she was a violent person. That was because she believed that Waltraute-sama who was behind of her would definitely caught me.

“I will leave you in charge of the baggage, sister! There is no need for me to hold back since it hate purifying, thus I will slice it up neatly!”

After giving out a tremendous war cry, she wielded the big scythe at her finger tips while dashing to the front of the miasma. Then, with a single slash from the scythe, it seemed that the miasma was swaying in agony.

It was in pain...? It was exactly as what Grimgerde-sama said, it was alive in the appearance of the smoke.

I was not sure whether the miasma was angry after being slash or it was

afraid. That was because it suddenly increased its volume as if it was trying to eliminate its opponent, Grimgerde-sama.

But Grimgerde-sama was not agitated by it at all. She lowered her posture as if she was crawling to avoid the miasma hand that was extended at a high speed, then she shifted her body to counter it with the flexibility of a snake. With her black hair and coat fluttering, the appearance of her walking with a smile that contained madness, it was as if she was a Grim Reaper.

“Ku ku ku... that’s right, dance! I will never let my target escape. As long as it is still alive that is!”

While using her hand, should, head, waist and sometime her feet as a support to wield the scythe freely, she slash out continuously at the miasma. Against the miasma that was unable to give any scream, the violet grim reaper finally deal the final blow.

“I had prepared an end that is betting for you. God Technique—‘Zealisch Ladylen’!!”

The moment when she released her God Technique, the pure black scythe was lighted by the bluish-white burning fire.

The spark was scatter on the side. The deeply carved afterglow was accompanied with the black impurity to become a flower offering. As if that gloomy light was acting as a guide to hell, the living miasma dispersed silently.

“You did it~ as expected of Grim-chan! Onee-san had fallen for you.”

“Well, it’s just a simple matter. Once I deal with it. ...hmm?”

Grimgerde-sama who used her shoulder to carry the scythe again, she crouched down as if she sensed something. It seemed that something dropped at the place where the miasma had disappeared.

“What is this? ...it seems... like a ring.”

After picking that up, it seemed like a golden ring that gave off a faint glow. There was nothing else that is particular other than that.

Don’t tell me that the miasma just now drop this? No... by thinking logically, it should be one of the treasure that was retrieved by Sigurd-san. That mean, was

this also one of the heritage of the great hero?

“Why don’t we keep it~~?”

“Sigh, as if we can do that. It’s not like we are not robber. Here you go sister, now hand over the mask. Since we had finished with our matter here.”

The aftertaste of victory lasted for a short moment, Grimgerde-sama threw the ring and quickly snatch the mask from Waltraute-sama. Then, after she put on the mask, her body shook violently and tilted.

“Woah, look out!”

I immediately change into my human form with the rune of mannaz and supported her. Right after that, she woke up while rubbing the eye of the mask.

“Huh...? Where am I... ahh!? Why.... Why am I in such a position with Sei-kun? I... have no memory of this at all!”

“Ah, no, actually this is.”

“It seems that the effect is instantaneous, Pork-chan, the wake up kiss works all the time~”

Woah!? What are you saying, Waltraute-sama! You will create misunderstanding with this!

“Eh...? Ah, eh? That... kiss? That, that?”

“She is now confused! Hold it, please calm down Grimgerde-sama! That was a joke!”

“Joke? How could you... is Sei-kun joking about the wake up kiss...!?”

“No, I am not joking about that!?”

She was extremely confused! Somebody please help me!

“Grim-chan, it’s alright~ The other ‘you’, won’t forgive those who makes the current you cry right?”

“That... that’s right! ...hmm? But will I be sad if I was kissed by Sei-kun...?”

“There is no need for you to think about that anymore...”

Sigh... I wondered where did all the anxiety just now disappear to. Well, it was

fine as long as the two of them were fine.

Even though we had deal with the miasma in the ruin, our mission was not over yet. I afraid that we were now heading to the former site of the royal family of Gjúki. It was a dangerous place where rumour said that the miasma was the strongest.

It was too early for us to be relaxed. I'd try my best until the end without being a bother.

With a brand new attitude, we had arrived at the destination that I was targeting. The former site of the royal family of Gjúki that was situated north of the river of Rhine.

The slanted sun had already begin to dye the world with the scarlet glow. But... I didn't believe that was the reason why the sediment that resided there was so dark.

"Ah! Waltraute and Grimgerde! And it's exactly as I heard, Sei-san is also with them. Thank you for your hard work~"

"Come on, you are so late! Well, there is no helping it that you can't beat my team since I am the fastest among us."

From the voice, you could know who arrived at the former site which was team Brynhildr-sama and Gerhi-sama. I was not sure what method did they use to communicate but it seemed that Brynhildr-sama and the other were aware that I was joining in the mission.

"Hilde-chan, how did it go in the region that you were in charge with~?"

Right immediate we met up, Waltraute enquired the other team on the result of their task. It was important to share the knowledge. Brynhildr-sama stiffened her expression and began talking about the region she as in charged.

"Um... about that, to be honest it is out of my expectation. The vicinity was completely cover by the black sediment that give off a painful hatred... actually this is the first time that I saw a miasma that strong."

What the.... I thought it was just us who are facing trouble but it seemed that Brynhildr-sama and the other also encountered the same thing.

“Which region did Brynhildr-sama and the other go to scout?”

“The place that we encounter it is at Hreidmar mansion in the dwarf kingdom ‘Niðavellir’.”

“Hreidmar—if I’m not mistaken it’s there right? It the place where the father of Regin, the foster father of Sigurd-san, is in charge with the dwarf...”

“Yes. He is also the father of the guy who become the magic dragon, Fafnir.”

Okay.... That meant that was the place where the story on the pilgrimage of the Great Hero treasure begun. And the place we were at right now, was the ending point of that story—

“...hmm?”

Hold it. If I thought about it carefully, the ruin, ‘Gnitaheid’ that we were at just now had a strong relation with the Great Hero treasure. Was this... a coincidence?

“Um... can I ask one more question? The place that you all went to observe... where is it?”

“? Hm... Schwerte, Siegrune and Rossweisse, this three person went to the former house that Regin and Sigurd lived in when they were alive. The combination of Ortlinde and Helmwige... they... went to the mansion of ‘Hindarfjall’ where I was confined previously.”

“—...”

What was that... hold it for a moment. The place where the miasma appeared, was that kind of place? That meant all of it...

“Is... is it only those place that you mention just now the place that is overflowing with miasma?”

“Hey, Sei, you had been throwing question at us for a while. On top of that, based on your tone, it seems you are a bit anxiety, is something the matter?”

“That is because... there is a strange connection.... I am pretty sure there is something strange with this! All the place that the miasma appeared... is connected to the Great Hero, Sigurd!”

“!!” x4

Four of the sister become speechless after they figured out what I was saying. At that moment, all of the member present become tense.

The miasma—is coming!!

The moment when we sensed the unpleasant air, the world that we were located begin changing without any warning.

The black sediment that was oozing out from the bottom of hell. As if all the unfortunate in this world were condensed into that lump of hatred, it was dying this land and sky in dark red.

“Ah!? What what what what is this!?”

“Please... please calm down Grim-chan! It’s alright, take a deep breath, since there is nothing to be afraid of.”

“Please give me the creep... it’s best if we don’t stay here for a long time.”

“This... are you saying... that this much of darkness exist...!?”

The scenery that was in front of me was the astounded Valkyrie. I was also the same... no... I wondered why. I felt that I understood the meaning of this scenery much better than anyone else.

This sediment contain all death. All misfortune. And all the – despair of this world.

There was no hope of saving that. That was because this was the cry of those who couldn’t be saved in this world.

The resentment voice that was requesting condolence was assemble at the gravestone of the former prosperous royal family.

Moreover, that was—the word that we must not listen at all.

[I grant this. To all the greedy fellow—the eternity misfortune.]

“!? Sei-san? What... what the matter? Since you suddenly change into your human form.”

Whose... voice was that....

If someone was there... it must be killed....

That was because... that was me after all. Since its our role to do that.

Come... let's kill it. It's quite simple? You are also the same... since you are a tool.

"What is this? The miasma is all gathering... in Sei-san body...! This is bad, to think that he is captured by the miasma!?"

"Hii!? Some... somehow, its eye are shining brightly! Is this the time for me to off my mask!?"

...it was so noisy. Look... I'd make it quiet. Hold out your finger. One finger was more than enough.

The way of doing it—you were aware of it right?

"...Hey, Pork-chan. Look at Onee-san. Come, look toward me."

"...?"

Hey. There was no need to look at that right? It'd end if you killed it.

"! As expected, you still have some conscious right? If that is the case... everyone I beg of you! Please assist me! If I am able to increase my God Technique up to its limits, I might be able to purify Pork-chan!"

"! I see, there is some value in trying that! Everyone, let's transfer all of our power to Waltraute!"

"It seems like we have no choice but to gamble on this... ahem, I will support you with all I have! Make sure that you had properly accept my wind!"

"Tch, it seems like it's 'Mine' turn again. I will lend you my power, you must make sure that you see this to the end, sister!"

Everyone... thank you! Okay, Pork-chan, I will give you the amount of bravery that you need! God Technique, 'Fairstell Ken dance'!!"

(! What is it...? This... light.... What am I...)

...Stop it. It's fine as long as you remain as hollow. You had to accept it on your own.

(What is this, there is a voice in my head...! Accept it on my own? Who the heck are you!)

I am you. You are I. Don't act you like you don't know. Accept it, you... had realize it long ago right?

(What is that... I have no idea what you are saying at all!)

That is wrong. If I had to say it, there is no way that you are not sure. Look at your surroundings. After scattering all this death, do you think that you have the right to act as the victim?

(Scattering death? Victim? What the heck are you saying? I have no idea what you are saying, so get out! I want you to disappear from my body right away!)

Stop with that pointless struggle. As long as you are still you—there is no way that you are able to escape from us.

(...is that so. If that the case, I... will face it without running away!!)

What? You...,... fine. Since this is just a side entertainment.

Then... see you later....

“Oh—!!”

After I realized it, I had already being shouting. It seemed that I had managed to chase out something that was nesting inside of me.

And that was not an example at all. In reality, the black miasma that was pulled out from me coiled itself into a tornado and flew up toward the sky.

“Haa... haa... the miasma... there was so much coming out from the inside of me...?”

“Oh my, it comes out a lot~ ...okay then. To the bad child that was ignored, Onee-san will show you one more of my God Technique. Come toward the sound of the clapping hand! ‘Lindburg Furne’!!”

After clapping her hand quickly, a weapon which was difficult to describe appear in Waltraute-sama hand. Both the head and tail of the handle were attach with a sword blade. I wonder what should I call it, was it okay if I call it a ‘twin blade’?

“Remember this carefully, Onee-san style is if you can’t be pampered then I just have to hit you with a lash. Be prepare for a harsh punishment! God Technique—“Fairtilgen Miliz’!”

After giving out a loud shout, the ground was kicked forcefully. After spreading the wings from her back, she flew toward the lump of miasma, in the midst of that... she created clone of herself. Moreover, the number of the clone is too many!”

“So many breast!?”

No, that was wrong! What was I shouting about! Putting that aside, this was something pleasant... that was not it, what a dreadful technique! So this was Waltraute-sama God Technique for dealing out punishment!

Then, at the same time when I was surprised, Waltraute-sama who had clone herself surround her target from all direction. The twin blade that all of them were holding gave out a sound together and they operated the mechanism that was built in it.

The snake like mechanism of the sword blade that I never seen before, it was extending toward the miasma while giving off spark. The blade that was moving like a snake immobile the miasma in an instant.

“—May you rest in peace.”

The tempting sigh like whisper. Including the sexy kiss she threw at that moment, she pull the sword forcefully.

In that moment, the miasma that was caught by the chain of the blade was tear to pieces.

Together with the wind that was created, the world was freed from invasion and we can see the usual evening sky. The miasma became thin as if it was absorbed by the sky and disappeared.

“We did it! You are amazing, Waltraute-sama, ah!

“Sei-san! Are you alright!? Are you hurt!?”

After repelling the miasma magnificent, Waltraute-sama dashed toward me but it was hinder since I was forcefully hug by Brynhildr-sama.

“Ah... Brynhildr-sama~? I... I’m fine.”

“Are you sure? Even though you had swallow that large amount of miasma? Since your consciousness was encroachment by it, it won’t be strange if there is any after effect...”

“Hm~... I think, that is no such thing. I’m sorry for making you worry.”

“No... Sei-san, there is no need for you to apologize. If that is case, I’m happy that you are alright.”

Brynhildr-sama let go of my shoulder and took a breath as if she had finally calm down. Ah, I did it, it would be better if I caused her to worry a bit... hey you, Sei, a gentleman should not have such a vulgar way of thinking.

“Nevertheless... I wonder what the identity of the miasma?”

Brynhildr-sama tilted her head and naturally change the topic back to the miasma.

It was true that... the miasma was quite terrifying. The miasma here cannot be compared with the miasma we saw in ‘Gnitaheid’ as it was much bigger and thicker—.

Was the royal family destroyed because of that or was it... because the royal family had reach a gruesome end that created that thing. No matter which it was, that thing was too dangerous.

“...Hm? This is...”

At the same time when I was calming down, I lower my sight and saw something that was suddenly dropped on the ground.

“It’s a ring again. Moreover, aren’t this the same thing that we saw in ‘Gnitaheid’?”

“Huh? Let see... ah, it really look quite the same. This does not seem like a trend in the human realm. Well, since it was drop here, it might be an object with some history, you should throw it away since it’s a bit dirty.”

“Okay...”

After I was told by Grimgerde-sama, I let the ring to slide off my palm. The

moment it was drop and tumble, the ring seemed a bit lonely and for some reason it made me feel a bit guilty.

“Wasn’t it quite a disaster, boar. You were possessed by it since you look the weakest among us, it really was quite an unpleasant scene.”

“Hey, Grimgerde, please don’t said such rude thing. Since the only one here who does not belong to the God Tribe is Sei, so it is not related to being strong or weak.”

“Eh, there is no need for you to be so angry since it’s a fact. So? What exactly was it, Sei. Do tell us your thoughts when you were used as a fertilizer for the miasma.

Grimgerde-sama who said that with a smile on her bare face expose, I thought back on the time when I was swallowed by miasma while being nervous.

“Hmm that miasma... I had a feeling that it keep called out to me. It seemed quite intimate with me... it’s as if... it is an old acquaintance of me...”

“What... what is that. Are you saying that the miasma is purposely aiming to possess you?”

“No, I’m not so sure about that but... I don’t feel any uncomfortable feeling at first. I started to move without a doubt, then I have a feeling that I am doing something dreadful... in that moment, I suddenly saw a dazzling light. Is that Waltraute-sama God Technique?”

“That might be right~ Well, it was not done with Onee-sama power alone. Beside it might be Pork-chan power also~? The thing that was strengthen by Onee-sama at that time was your bravery.”

My... bravery...? I see, that was why I was able to confront the miasma right in the front. As long as I had bravery, someone like me would be able to do that.

“Okay. Even though we weren’t able to figure out the cause of the miasma but we managed to repel the problematic miasma, so there is no need to stay here any longer. I will contact the team that was not present here to return, so why don’t we also return?”

“That’s right... hold it for a moment! I actually have business here!”

“Business? You have some business at this kind of place?”

“Actually, due to me personal interest, I am searching for the sword called ‘Rigel’. It seems like it was previously located in this country, so I thought that there might be some clue here.”

After I said that, Gerhi-sama replied me as if she had no interest in it. On the other hand, Brynhildr-sama who figured out the affair became the representative and began taking control of the place.

“I believe that Sei-san curiosity is something fantastic! Since the danger had already been taken care, there won’t be any problem if we walk around so let us help you. Right? Everyone.”

“That’s right. If it is Pork-chan request, there won’t be any objection from Onee-san~”

“There... there is also no objection from me but we just have to locate the treasury of this country right?”

“Yes, that would be the best if we could do that.

“Tch, I will excuse myself from this troublesome thing. So long, I will just leave it to you guys to do it.”

Grimgerde-sama was the one who reject to cooperate. She immediately put on the mask and she returned back to her outer personality.

Hold it. I understood that an event would occur, so I was prepared to stop it.

“Hmm... ha!? Oh my.... Did I receive a wake up kiss from Sei again!?”

“__”

Ah.

Just now... did Brynhildr-sama let out increased her voice in a silent manner? I got it.

“Hold it! That’s why I’m telling you that it was a misunderstanding!”

“What is with this misunderstanding? Sei-san. I’m sure that just now, Grimgerde mentioned ‘again’.”

“No, that’s not it, It’s just a misunderstanding!”

“How could you, to think that you did it five time! You are too sneaky Sei-san! I can’t believe you!” (Misunderstanding and five time have the same pronunciation which is ‘gokai’)

“You’re wrong!? That’s not it! Ah~! I hope you can just believe me!!”

Just like this— my shout from this misfortune and cursed echoed throughout the night sky.

I can be saved if we managed to find the clue on ‘Rigel’ but... in the end, it seemed that there was no rescue for me... sigh~.

Valhalla no Bangohan Volume 4 Chapter 4

Chapter 4 – The Color of the decisive Brynhildr

It had been a few days since we return from the investigation mission on the miasma in 'Midgard'.

"Sigh... I can't really get the hang of it..."

A big sigh was let out at the same time with the grumble. The sigh was let out as if the happiness was running away at full speed.

It was needless to say but the reason for the sigh was because there was no progress in the search for magic sword 'Rigel'. Sigh, I thought that there would be a clue if I went to the ruin of the royal family of Gjúki but...

In the first place, there was no guarantee that thing would proceed smoothly like I expected. Although there was no guarantee for it, it was still one of the way that I anticipated the most but I had taken a serious spiritual damage since it ended up in vain.

"How about Loki... well I sure it will be a failure also."

From the day where we part on our way, I didn't heard anything from Loki who remain in 'Helheim'. That means that there is no progress from his side also.

According to Loki, it took him quite a tremendous effort to be able to find the legendary Blacksmith, Ívaldi-san that was having his secluded life, it seemed like all the dwarf were quite good at hiding. Thus, I believed that it wouldn't be easy task to find out the location of Regin-san.

“It seems like both of us are having a hard time. Since that is the case, I cannot be the only one who gave up now.”

I slapped both my cheek in order to be motivated since I was in a low spirit. Right, I used my human hand instead of the boar hoof.

By the way, I was currently located at the aforementioned big library. I had read a large number of the ancient manuscript ever since I arrived here in the early morning. This was the only thing that I could do since there was no favourable result when I went to the ruin of Gjúki and also to the Fafnir stronghold, ‘Gnitaheid’.

Moreover, this imitation of being a bookworm was actually my recent daily activities.

“The destruction of the royal family of Gjúki... after that... it’s useless, this book also doesn’t have the information I wanted.”

I closed the book that I had read up until now and reclined on the chair. Fuu... I must change to my human form in order to read but I had to put up with reading for a long time...

Then, when I was rubbing my eye, I suddenly heard the sound of the entrance of the library was open.

“Eh, someone came? That is... isn’t that Siegrune-sama.”

Siegrune-sama is the seventh sister out of the ninth beautiful Valkyrie sister and her role was a tsundere. After she came in to the library with her usual aloof expression, it seemed that she immediately noticed my presence.

“Oh, isn’t it Sei. What are you doing... that’s right, Sei, I heard about this from my sister. That you recently inhale a large amount of miasma at ‘Midgard’, right? Are you feeling fine since you are not resting in your room?”

“Eh, are you perhaps worry about me?”

“!? I... who is worrying about you! It’s seem that you did not read between the lines as always, stupid!”

Yup~, this was it. I felt sorry for Siegrune-sama but I really enjoyed her reaction as usual. Since I was happy of being scolded stupid by here, no harm

was done at all.

“Well, since a few days had passed since that, so I am perfectly fine now. I’m sorry for making you worry about me.”

“Hmph, to think that you are able to say that. It seems there is no need for me to worry that much.”

Didn’t that mean that she was indeed worry about me? Well, since it seemed that she’d really become angry if I were to retort at her on that, so it would be better if I remain silent on it.

“So, what are you doing? Studying? It seems that you are quite diligent since you purposely transform into your human form. To be frank, sometime I am quite impressed by that?”

“Th... thank you. Well I am researching on a matter instead of studying. “

“What are you researching on?

After she said that, Siegrune-sama peeked at the book that I was reading from the side. In that moment, while I became flustered with the nice fragrance, I answered her.

“I am researching on the great hero heritage that was obtain by King Gjúki in ‘Midgard’.”

“King Gjúki? At the riverside of Rhine? Didn’t that the place where my sister recently went?”

“That is true but... there was no information on the matter I wanted, so I try to change my approach.”

“Hmm~... but that is quite an ancient story. You won’t be able to obtain those kind of information around here, so I recommended the books in the shelves over there. Follow me.”

I wondered what happen since it was rare to see that Siegrune-sama treated me with tender care. I headed toward the deeper part of the library while following her who was guiding me.

“Ah, what a coincidence that there is a ladder here. Sei, please hold it while I take it for you.”

“Ah, yes!”

Siegrune-sama lean the ladder toward the shelves and climb up since it seemed that the desired book was located at the top of the shelves. I secured a position to hold the ladder but... did you understand what I was trying to say? About what would happen if I were to look up now... Well, since I wouldn't look up so I apologized that I was unable to fulfil your expectation. That was because I was a gentleman after all.

“This is the book Sei, please hold on to it since there was a few book that I wanted to recommend. ...hey, what are you doing? It will be dangerous if you keep facing the ground.”

“But that, if I don't look down, a more dangerous scene will enter my sight...”



“Huh? I have no idea what you are saying but it’s fine so come and hold this book. Quickly.”

Oh? Did she say it was fine just now? There was no other way since I had obtained the permission from the person herself. I made sure that my eyes were cloudless and instead of looking down or the front... I would look toward the sky!

“...Oh.”

The view was better than I expected. I was able to see the outline of her butt perfectly. But the waist cloth was a disturbance. It should be more like, weird, was it bad to turn toward the front? This was the moment where I wanted to touch her even if it was her thigh only—

“Sei. It seems that you are quite bold.”

“!?”

All of a sudden I was called out from the back of me which caused to be turn toward the back in a surprised. Then, in that misfortune moment, I was shaking the ladder that I was holding tremendously.

“Woah!? Ah, I... I am falling~!”

The black Valkyrie fell down together with the scream from the heaven ladder. I immediately lowered my waist and got into position so that I am able to catch her as if I was carrying her.

“... Ah... Sei. Thank... thank you for catching me. ... Aren’t I heavy?”

“No at all. Since I was train for this.”

After I put her down, she quickly showed a salute posture toward me. Right... in order to win against my disciple Ikusu, I undergone continuous muscle training up until recently. As a result of that, the quality of my meat went down but... at least I was able to be of use at a time like this.

“I... I will say this first, I absolutely did not fall for you just now! Do you think that girls will be charmed just like that in this era!? In the first place, you caused me to fall!”

“You... you are quite right...”

Putting aside Siegrune-sama who shouted as if she was trying to say that to herself, the main problem was the person who called out from the back of me. That voice belong...

“Helmwige-sama, please don’t surprise me.”

“Ha ha ha! Do you think you have the right to blame me? Hmm?”

Damn... since she had witness the scene where I try to touch Siegrune-sama thigh, I am unable to talk back at her.

“Ah, Helmwige! It seems that you are here, as expected of Hildr-nee prediction. I should had settled my top priority matter first.”

Settle...? I see, I was wondering on the purpose that Siegrune-sama came to the library but it seemed like she was searching for Helmwige-sama. Moreover, it seemed that Helmwige-sama was skipping on her work as usual.

I was not sure whether it ws as expected or anything... well, since it was still daytime, so I could say that she was discovered a bit earlier for today right?

“For God sake, Helmwige-sama, what type of mission is it this time that makes you hide yourself to skip it?”

“Of course, it’s transporting. I had to go that King of the Open Sea, Aegir-sama place, in order to buy food supply. Moreover, since the amount of the supplies will be quite large, all of the sister will need to appear together. Sigh~ it’s a bit troublesome, it’s true that I have the most strength among the sister but I’m sure that I will be the one who will do the most work. Before you asking other to do it, you should train your own muscle first. Don’t you have the same thought? Sei?”

“Ah, ha ha... well, there is a reason behind it...”

After replying it in a listless manner, Helmwige-sama shook her head and showed a bitter smile as a response.

I see, the food supply mission was it... it was quite nostalgic. I did accompany them to the mission previously but it was quite troublesome that time. That was because I had to slash both of my hand in the end.

It was lucky that I left that act to the sword expert, Schwerte-sama because of that I only experience minimum pain and the bleeding but I would never dare to approach that two sword anymore.

“Hmm. Helmwig, it seemed you were here as expected. I’m sure that I had told you that you will be cut down by my sword without any hesitation the next time you skip your work, had you forgotten about that?”

At that moment, the aforementioned dual sword was unsheathed in front of me. But the target of those swords this time was not me, it was Helmwig-sama instead.

“Oh, Schwerte. It seems that you had used that rune to call her right? Siegrune.”

“You mean Tozen? By the way, I did not call Schwer-nee only, I had called all the sisters.”

The moment Siegrune said that, after Schwerte-sama who arrived first, all the other sisters entered the library one after another.

“Ah, you had done it! I should have been the first one to find her in these times but... it seems I was too late. It seems that I am unworthy to say that I was the fastest among the sisters anymore...”

After Schwerte-sama, the next one was the second sister who prioritized speed, Gerhi-sama. The kindest among the sisters called out to her since she wanted to be number one at everything.

“That... that is not true, Gerhi-nee! That is not helping to it since Gerhi-nee was instructed to look at the farthest distance!”

Yup, that was a nice follow up Weiss. There were things you can do and can’t do in this world. So it was best if you were aware of the things that you can do.

“Ah Weiss, there is no need for you to worry about it. Since Gerhi-nee’s recovery is also the fastest among us.”

Then, the reply that came from a different direction belonged to the third sister, Ortlinde-sama. The moment the phrase ‘fastest among us’ was heard by disappointed Gerhi-sama, she quickly jumped up in an energetic manner.

“Fastest... among us....! Of course! Yup, I am fine now! No matter what I am

the fastest! Ho~ ho ho ho!”

Oh. Even though it was not a comfort, to think that this method to force her to be happy exist... no, to think that I was not aware of it, as expected of Ortlinde-sama.

“Am... amazing! She really did recover instantly, what a tremendous personality trait... I want to follow her example. But if I were to compare against that, I am the one who had zero personality among the sister.... Sigh, I also want to be number one at something also...”

Well, Grimgerde-sama... you had already possessed a few number one traits, so can you please realize about it yourselves.

“Wige-chan~ I had captured you now. ...huh? Sigh, it seems that Wige-chan is Wige-chan after all~”

“Huh? Isn’t it Waltraute, what do you mean by that?”

Yup, I also wondered about that. Right after she entered the library, she pressed her voluptuous breast toward Helmwige-sama, I wondered what did Waltraute-sama mean by that?

“That is because if you were going to skip your work seriously, you won’t be wearing your armour right? Onee-san is happy since it seems that you are quite motivated on this mission.”

“Kyaa~!? Be... be quiet, Waltraute! I~ have no motivation to do it at all!”

Ah... I see, so she was talking about that. After Helmwige-sama said that in an unfrank manner, she charged toward Siegrune-sama.

And then— since eight of the sister had gathered here, the last to appear was...

“He.Im.wi.ge~~!!”

Oh, as expected she was really angry! It seem that Brynhildr-sama was quite furious as she was walking rapidly while holding her sword! Hmm, I wondered what will happen to Helmwige!

“Help me, Sei...Sei!!”

“What will happen to me!?”

“Huh!? Sei-san, you’re were present!? I’m... sorry, since you have seen another unpleasant part...!”

Helmwige-sama pushed me on a whim and hide behind me in order to escape from Brynhildr-sama perceptive. After Brynhildr-sama gave out a shriek and sheathed her sword, she quickly waved both her hand in front of her face.

I see! Brynhildr-sama would never get angry no matter what when she was in front of me! Curse you, Helmwige-sama, to think that you managed to overcome this...

“Um... Sei-san, are you looking for something since you are at the library again?”

“Yes, that’s right. As I had promised with Loki previously, I am in the middle of my research for the whereabouts of the magic sword, ‘Rigel’.”

“Ah... I see. I’m sorry, Sei-san that I am not able to be of use even though I had promised to help...”

“It’s alright, please lift up your head! There is no helping it since Brynhildr-sama is busy with your daily mission. I am able to find the clue of it even if I am alone so please prioritize your own mission for now.”

Against Brynhildr-sama who felt apologetic, I quickly offered some comfort word as a follow up.

It would be quite troublesome if she lowered down her head that easily. There was no need for her to apology since she lately prioritized me over her own mission. Moreover, there were times where I had to try my best too.

“Then, since we had found Helmwige... we will take our leave here so that we won’t be a bother to Sei-san.”

“Okay! Good luck on your mission!”

“Ah, hold it for a moment Nee-sama. We should let Sei-dono to accompany us with this mission.”

“Huh? What do you mean... ah! That’s right!”

Hmm? It wouldn't do if I bot with them? If I was not mistaken, the Valkyrie-sama mission for today was to purchase some supplies from Aegir-sama... ah.

That... that right. I had forgotten about it since the opportunity hardly come by but Aegir-sama mentioned this before. He wished to meet me the next time that we planned to deal with him.

"I'm... I'm sorry, Sei-san. It seems that we are going to bother you to the utmost..."

"It's okay, I am totally fine with it! Instead I had thought about this for a long time that I want to help out with your mission once in a while."

That right. That was because I had been bothering them with their mission a lot of time up until now. It was a bit presumptuous for me to say this but it seemed that I was able to take one of the burden off my shoulder.

Even though I said that... Aegir-sama was quite scary in spite of being assertive and a loud voice, so I felt quite inferior when I met him.

Moreover, the wall and floor of the palace were all made up of pure gold. I felt quite uneasy if by chance I had cause a scratch on the building. It was quite magnificent but I wished that he would properly store his treasure at a better place instead of putting it in plain sight.

Although I said that, he quite loved his treasure. In fact, it wouldn't be a surprise if he was hugging his super rare treasure somewhere. I believed that he was collecting all the rare treasure in the world...right?

...hmm!? Hold it for a moment, is there a chance that—

"Brynhildr-sama! Aegir-sama had quite the ostentation of the nouveau riche right?"

"Eh!? No, that... um... well that right. Mostly of the gold in the world belong to him now. If I had to say it, he own a large amount of wealth and there is a rumour that in the repository in his house, there is a collection of treasure that was collected from all around the world..."

"As expected! That means that— there is a chance that Sigurd heritage can be found there right?"

“! I see! Yes, I believe that there is a high chance of it being there!”

Brynhildr-sama hit her hand to show her affirmation as if she had figured out my objective.

This errand mission... instead of it being a bothersome to me, it was like a gift from the heaven!

Okay, let's go! To the palace of the King of Open Sea, Aegir-sama!

– The human realm ‘Midgard’ –

This place which was created by the Chief God Odin-sama and his two brother and it was also known as the ‘middle world’ since it was located at the middle of the nine world.

During the ancient time, the crack in this great land, ‘Ginnungagap’ was filled with the blood of the first Jotun, ‘Ymir’ which then became the sea.

Ymir body which stretched out in the sea became the great land, his skull became the sky. His brain became the cloud, bone became the mountain, his teeth became the rock, hair became the tree and grass and his eyebrow became the huge wall that separate the world.

...which was what I heard. Since it was written in one of the manuscript that I read a long time ago. The scale of it was grand that me wonder that it was a fake~.

Putting that aside, toward the west after passing the wall that was made out of the Ymir's eyebrow is the world where we are currently located. It the perpetual world that the dwarf live in, ‘Niflheim’. Furthermore, the place where the King of the Open Sea, Aegir-sama lived was at the bottom of the sea of this world. The beauty of the palace that I hadn't seen for a few months was something that couldn't be expressed through drawing. I was pretty sure that it would take my breath away no matter how many time I see it.

“Oh!! It's been quite some time, wind maiden! Moreover, I welcome you all in a flashy manner since the view of all the sister gathered is too magnificent!”

The frightening look dark skinned guy reclined on his golden throne and his whole body was decorated by the golden ornament. That Giant with the white

beard which had the appearance of the king was King Aegir who governed the open sea.

As usual his vigour loud voice scored full point in scariness. It was good that I was in my boar mode since I could to hide behind everyone.

“Hey, there is no need for you to hide yourself, Saehrimnir. Do you know that I wanted to meet you? It seem that you carry quite a flashy ability in you, right?”

“Flash... flashy ability is it...?”

“Ya! Since your revival ability can be pass to another person. Moreover, it seem that you were able to transform into that ‘Golden chicken, Gullinkambi’. Isn’t that truth? Can you let me taste it in a flashy manner right here right now? Do let me taste it since the evaluation for the chicken is so deadly delicious.”

Whoa, I couldn’t believe this. Aegis-sama was asking for me to die here. Although he was friendly, he was still a merciless Jotun... but it seems Odin-sama and the others didn’t hold back on their words either.

But Odin-sama told me not to let other races eat me that easily... then what should I do in this situation? I wondered would it be okay for me to reject him here...

I looked toward Brynhildr-sama to seek for opinion but it seemed that she was unable to give me a prompt decision. After a short moment of thinking – oh, she took out a pose for a saluting sternly. What’s that, it so cute!

“I understand! Since it a request from Aegir-sama who had such a close relationship with us, the Aesir tribe, there is no way for us to reject you. Please do enjoy tonight dinner that will serve with Gullinkambi meat by me!”

“Yea! It won’t do if it’s not that! Oh, feel free to boil him or grill it.”

Okay... it seemed that the order he gave to the Chef behind of him was quite scary since he didn’t hold back.

Well, I was not sure was it lucky or not since it was just a few hours away from the sunset. I wouldn’t lose much of the time for today if I were to made into a meal now. Since I didn’t bring along Eldhrimnir, there wouldn’t be able to eat as

much as they want but let's just relax and be cooked since it will help when it came to the dealing.

.....

...

– After the sunset.

“Okay, it came! It the awaiting tasting time! In a flashy manner!”

Okay. Immediately after I gave out a death agony and was treated as a livestock, I was served on a big plate made out of pure gold but I wondered why was I feel this strange proud feeling when I looked at that.

Although I said that, the one on the plate was the appearance of Gullinbursti that I transformed into.

“Munch~~ ah~ I see! It seems that it would be better if I didn't eat this instead, since it's quite addictive!”

“I... I am glad that you enjoy it!”

Aegir-sama enjoyed it wholeheartedly since it didn't seem that he was lying.

Everyone including me was served with a magnificent dinner but after looking at Aegir lively manner of eating cause me to become full instead.

One thing or another it seemed that our visit today had developed to a dinner party. Our objective this time were to purchase the supplies at half price as promised previously and leave after giving our salutation though.

...let me said this first but... I actually had another objective.

“Aegir-sama. I would like to thank you for your courteous hospitality.”

“I am glad that you like it. Since I had requested you to die in a flashy manner.”

“No, this is my job after all. Moreover... it's a bit sudden but I actually would like to have an earnest discussion with Aegir-sama.”

“Discussion? Ah, I don't mind, let me hear it now.”

“Thank... thank you! ...Actually I am looking for a certain treasure. Moreover,

it's the heritage of the human Great Hero, Sigurd. It's the magic sword, 'Rigel' that is able to pierce the dragon heart."

"Oh? It seems you had quite a flashy taste. The heritage of the dragon slayer is a treasure among the treasure."

Aegir-sama gave his agreement in a low voice after listening to what I said in a serious manner.

Hee, as expected it quite an amazing treasure since Aegir-sama who was surrounded by numerous treasure said that. Now, the problem was whether Aegir-sama had it or not...

"Ah, let me say this first before you get your hope up, I don't have it okay?"

"Eh! Ah, I see..."

I'm sorry, actually I had already gotten my hope... I was feeling disappointed now.

"But. If it the whereabouts of the sword— I am quite informed on that."

"!! Is... is that the truth!?"

I was unable to ask him... where was it. Since Aegir-sama ordered us to be silence by lifting up his index finger.

"Are you aware of it? Little one. In order to obtain anything you have to pay the equal for it, this is a standard rule that existed before the world started. Before I tell you the information on the magic sword... you must entertain me."

En... entertain? That meant... that a difficult task would be given to me just like previously!?

This was bad! Since the previous entertainment was able to greatly affect the future of the Aesir! Why did I ask such an unnecessary request...!

"Oh! 'Himinglaeva'! Come here!"

After Aegir-sama hit his knee, he summoned someone to the hall.

It seemed like it a human name and the one who had summoned was a single girl who came in a relaxed manner.

The cobalt blue waist length hair remind me of the color of the sky after the

rain clear up and the milky angel raiment that looked like the morning sun. Instead of calling it a clothes, it had a daring design where the body was covered by the layer of the multiple long cloth and most of the skin was not even covered properly.

The leather sandal made a creak on the golden floor and the girl kneeled down in front of Aegir-sama.

“Did you called me, my dear father.”

That young girl called the king of the open sea as father. The moment I heard that, I remembered about the manner that Brynhildr-sama told me previously. Aegir-sama had nine children which was the same number as the Valkyrie.

That meant, this girl—

“Saehrimnir, this is your first time meeting her right? Let me do the introduction. This is the eldest of my proud nine daughter, ‘The wave maiden’, Himinglaeva.”

“... It’s a pleasure to meet you. I’m Himinglaeva.”

After she turned around, Himinglaeva greeted me with a beautiful voice.

Ah, this was bad, it was expected. The eldest of the wave maiden was on par with Brynhildr-sama and the other wind maiden, as she was quite an extraordinary beauty just like I though.

“Heee...heello, I...I am Saehrimrin!”

Since I was too nervous until I fumble on my word, Himinglaeva looked toward me and tilted her head. This was bad, I was sure that she thought that I was a weird person. But there was no helping it, since it’d happen to anyone if you were looked by the icy blue eye.

I had a feeling that the Valkyries were looking at me coldly but please forgive me since there was no other choice for me.

When the strange atmosphere began to spread in the hall, Aegir-sama used that as a signal and said this.

“It had arrived. The entertainment is none other than. A flashy duel between Himinglaeva and one of the wind maiden. The result means nothing. So, let’s

take it easy. Isn't it simple?"

I see, by entertainment, he meant a duel only. So one of the Valkyrie would be the representative and fight against her. Since the opponent was the eldest, we would also...

"I understand— I will do it."

After stepping forward, the one who said that in a commanding manner was the eldest of the Valkyrie, Brynhildr-sama.

But in that moment, a small commotion came from her eight sisters.

"Are you sure, Ane-sama! She is a tremendous opponent which was able to have a draw with you when you are at your perfect state Ane-sama, but the current you had lost your sacred weapon so..."

"That's right! We don't want to see our Nee-sama to lose in a pitiful manner!"

Schwerte-sama and Gerhi-sama which belonged to the combat team among the sisters voice out their concern as if they were at their wit's end. Eh, what's the matter? Was there any chance that Brynhildr-sama was at a disadvantage in this duel?

I looked toward Brynhildr-sama while feeling unsecured. Then, she looked toward her opponent and said this with a firm resolution.

"It's alright, please rest assured. Since I can't keep showing the lame side of me while... I'm in front of Sei-san."

Our eye met for a moment. The feeling that I felt from her eyes was not confident... it was 'stubbornness'.

"A duel between the two eldest sisters. Isn't that great, this will truly be quite an exciting flashy fight. Then, please be ready at once. Since I won't say any decent statement, so let's start it right away."

Aegir-sama stood up from the throne and hold his hand horizontally.

"There is no need for you to hold back."

"Of course. I'm ready when you are."

The two stare at each other. Brynhildr-sama lowered her body as if she was

crawling while hold the sword at her waist, against that Himinglaeva-sama was empty handed without holding anything. I wondered what her combat style was...

The moment when the anxiety reached its peak.

In the midst of the silence that you can heard your breath... that tranquility was broken in an instant.

“Begin!!”

Together with the signal that started the battle, Brynhildr-sama rush toward her opponent as fast as the wind. There is no gap nor doubt in her movement. With just a blink, she took ten steps and release a sideways slash!

The swiftness technique clearly seize the initiative. But that sword released a shrill impact sound as if it was blocked and it seem that it didn't reach Himinglaeva-sama at all.

“Hmm... I thought you had become weak but... you skills are still at a tolerable level.”

In the hand of Himinglaeva-sama— Brynhildr-sama sword was barely blocked by a light ring which has the same size as a human face.

“Don't tell me that is... a Chakram!?”

If I was not mistaken this weird weapon was stated in the manuscript that was bought by my parent when they went to a trip toward the south land. Furthermore, the shape quite resemblance to her weapon.

“Then, it's my turn now. You will die if you don't evade it properly.”

After saying it indifferently, Himinglaeva-sama form another light combat ring from her other hand. After using her index finger as a support to spin it in a high speed manner, she throw it toward Brynhildr-sama face!

“Please stop— looking down on me!”

After reading the movement of the approaching combat ring, Brynhildr-sama evaded it by turning her upper body and took up an offensive position.

Based on the tone of Schwerte-sama just now, I figured out that both of them

had numerous match up until now. Since the victor for those previously match was not decided that but I believed that the victor was Brynhildr-sama.

“Haaa—!!”

After Brynhildr-sama gave a high spirit shout, she took a light step and release continuous attack that does not allow her opponent to retaliate. She change her position between the front and the back and sometimes she jumped up to aim at the blind spot. That elegance seemed like a ballroom dance. That fierce yet beautiful sword fight spread spark in the battlefield and it increased the tempo of the fight.

After all that, Himinglaeva-sama didn't budge at all. While making use of her unique footwork, she dodged all the attack as if she is a jellyfish that was floating in the sea. Out of nowhere, the two combat ring was separated from her hand and was dancing freely according to her will. This was no longer a martial art, it was a magic domain instead.

“Argh!?”

In that moment, Brynhildr-sama released a voice of anguish. By the look of it her thighs was bleeding. I devoted my eye to discover the cause of the damage but there was a more surprising scene instead.

“What! The combat ring had increased...”

I only realized now that there were six combat ring flying in the surrounding around Himinglaeva-sama. I was afraid that this was her true combat style. I couldn't said that she was cheating at all. I was sure that she had trained for a long time in order to achieve this stunt.

“The you now who had lost your shield will not be able to avoid this. Before this end up in a gruesome manner... you'd better surrender now.”

The moment when Himinglaeva-sama declared her victory, she hold both her hand in front of her. At the same time, the combat ring clashed and rebounded against each other and began to soar in an ultrahigh speed around her.

Then... it flicked around as it showed its fangs literally.

“Kyaa—!!”

Since it was impossible to repel it with a sword alone, Brynhildr-sama was cut and blown away by the approaching combat ring. The splatter blood dye the gold floor red and this was... the moment where the battle would be concluded.

I really wanted Brynhildr-sama to win but... there was no other choice.

“...Not yet... it not over...”

“! Brynhildr-sama...!?”

Why...? Why did Brynhildr-sama stood up?

I really did want to support her till the end but the match had already concluded. Even if we continued with this match... I was afraid that there was no chance of winning. Only the painful wound would keep increasing only.

“Brynhildr-sama, why! There is no need to push yourself any further! So why...!”

“I’m sorry, Sei-san... no matter what I... will not give up.”

“Not giving up... you mean that you want to win this match!? This is not the time for that! Since Aegir-sama said that the result means nothing! So don’t push yourself any more than this.”

“I don’t want to lose! I will never lose again when I am in front of you anymore!!”

In that moment— I realized her true intention.

She continued as if she wanted to express all of her feeling that was stuck deep in her chest.

“During the time when we went to negotiate with Nidhogg... I told you that I will protect you. But in the end, not only was I defeated by the snake, I was rescued by Sei-san instead.... It was the same during the rebellion of the Einherjars. I was killed by Beruze in front of Sei-san... but I was revived due to the power of ‘Gullveig’. It is so pitiful. I am... so pathetic.”

“ ... ”

I... see. It seemed that that though was stuck in her mind for a long time.

This... this feeling... I was unable to say it at all. The only thing I could do was

to remain quiet and accept her feeling.

“No matter what situation it is, you will surely come out as the victor. I adore that part of you. But you... only know my pathetic side. If I was to lose here, I am surely that... I will become a girl that will be pampered only. That why... I will never give up!!”

The moment when she expressed her hidden thought into words, the blue breastplate that she was wearing gave off a sound and the mobile part was exposure. That was the blue Valkyrie, Brynhildr-sama signal to activate her God Technique.

The developed breastplate gave off divinity and both light and power was transfer to her sword.

But... will it be fine? I was afraid that the whole hall will be destroyed with just one swing...

“In order to annihilate my resentful opponent... God Technique— ‘Panzer Strahl’!!”

After releasing the power of destruction to annihilate everything, it broke off in the air and extended itself toward its target.

The impact blew away numerous furnishings in the hall and the flash blinded the spectator.

The moment when we opened our eyes— Himinglaeva-sama was still standing without a single scratch.

“... It's quite flashy from the appearance.”

She released a single statement against Brynhildr-sama God Technique and all the combat rings converged into a single gigantic combat ring that was floating in front of her.

Impossible, to think that she was able to defend against that!? Brynhildr-sama's decisive might strike...!

But that was not the only thing that surprised us. In the back of the half-destroyed hall, Aegir-sama said this after releasing a big sigh.

“Ah... ah... it seems that you had done it in a flashy manner. ...I changed my

mind. Hey Himinglaeva, go kill that girl.”

“!?” x11

After hearing those unexpected word, all of the Valkyrie, me and also Himinglaeva-sama become speechless.

Aegir-sama... what... was that just now...?

“This is not a surprising manner. You will be able to understand it if you think about it okay? The reason why I say that result mean nothing is to minimize the damage to this hall. Since there is no point for a fight to the death. ...But this girl who was too focus on winning went and turned my precious collection into trash. Of course, I will have to change my condition. A fight to the death. Moreover... your defeat will be judge by your death.”

“My dear... father, there is no need for me to go that far to kill her. Moreover, the Aesir tribe will have an ill feeling.”

“You as my daughter have no right to talk back to your father!! I’m pretty sure that the Valkyrie had eaten Saehrimnir meat right? That’s why she will be able to die one time! Or are you unable to draw the distinction after looking at this mess!! Since this mess was caused by her!?”

“That... that is just unreasonable...”

What was wrong with this king... I thought of this previously but he was too extreme!

It was true that Brynhildr-sama would be able to come back to life after dying. But it’d become a major incidence if one of the Aesir Goddess was killed because of that. Moreover, it wouldn’t be a surprise if it developed into a huge battle like the previously battle between the Aesir tribe and the Van tribe.

Moreover... even if she was able to revive, I’d not allowed Brynhildr-sama to die anymore!

“Everyone please tell me! On the thing that I need to do in order for Brynhildr-sama to win Himinglaeva-sama!?”

“A... argh... I’m sorry, Sei... we aren’t able to do anything.”

“Everyone! Is there really nothing at all!? I’m fine even if it just an idealistic

theory! I'm even fine if it something impossible!"

I looked up toward Helmwig, who gave up immediately as if I was imploring to her. Unfortunately, she kept avoiding having eye contact with me in a regretful manner which made it impossible to consult her on this.

"...Hey, can you think of anything, Weisse!? How about you, Grimgerde-sama!"

"I'm...I'm sorry Sei-kun, in order to make a comeback, I..."

"It... it's the same for me... ah! If that is the case, let's just request for him to let me die instead!"

"That's not good. That is a magnificent resolution but that doesn't solve anything."

Damn it... if this went on, were you asking me to stand still and let Brynhildr-sama die? There was no way that I was unable to tolerate it nor allow it. Something... there must be something...!

"Sei-shi. If you are fine with the unreasonable idealistic theory then Linde has a proposal."

"! Is... is that true!? I'm fine with anything! Please just said it out!"

It did not matter if it was an unrealistic fabrication. All I needed was an idea. I waited for her proposal while thanking Ortlinde-sama in a humble manner.

"It's a given fact that. As long as Hildr-nee regain her original power, the result will only be either a victory or a tie. Since it had been like that up until now."

"Original power... how do we do that?"

"It's as what Schwe mention before the duel begin that Hildr-nee had lost her sacred weapon. If she had the missing sacred weapon, 'Erlösung Schilt' or."

Erlösung Schilt... this was mostly that. The subject that were mention a few time previously which was Brynhildr-sama shield. If I was not mistaken, there was a rumor that Sigurd went and destroy most of that..."

As long as she had that, she would not lose at least. But this was really an

idealistic theory. No matter how we struggled, it was impossible to prepare something that was not available here—

...No... was that really true?

Just now Brynhildr-sama mentioned this. No matter what the circumstances was, the one who would definitely emerge as the winner in the end was— I, Saehrimnir.

“...”

Although I was aware that I was running out of time, I closed my eye and I asked myself.

Remember, Sei.

In this situation where we couldn't lose, in order for me to surpass the dragon slayer, instead of a dragon, I transformed into Fenrir. I also transformed into Gullinkambi in this critical situation.

“—Become it—”

... Don't think it impossible. That is because a weak heart turns all possibility into zero.

“That's right—I—”

That was because I was her shield— since 'I was aware' of it from the beginning.

“!? What... what is this light! This... what the heck is happening!!”

Aegir-sama fell down from his throne vigorously as if he had forgotten about his anger up until now.

Everyone present turned their gaze toward the stream of light that was ascending in the hall. Of course, that one that was at the center of that was me.

[Brynhildr-sama! Please use 'this'!]

“Huh? This voice... is it you, Sei-san!? Why are you like that...”

When the burst of light disappeared from the hall, a large amount of shield that was floating freely in the sky appeared in front of the surprised Brynhildr-sama.

That right—the amount of shield was the current me. Moreover, this was the sacred weapon, Erlösung Schilt that Brynhildr-sama lost.

[Brynhildr-sama, you were aware of this right? My rune of mannaz is an irregular rune where even the trickster Loki can't win against. Together with Fafnir, Fenrir and Gullinkambi, I can transform into your sacred weapon now. So don't worry.]

"I was told to not worry..."

Brynhildr-sama was unable to hide her doubt in front of this strange phenomena.

But Brynhildr-sama put aside her confusion. Currently this was the only chance to grasp the victory since everyone present are in state of confusion.

[So Brynhildr-sama, please let me take over your defense! You just have to concentrate on your offense toward Himinglaeva-sama only!]

"!.. Yes!"

After clearing away all her doubt, Brynhildr-sama immediately rush toward the side of her opponent. Brynhildr-sama managed to forestall the Himinglaeva-sama attack by deflecting the combat ring with her sword and the deflect ring cause a scratch to her cheek.



“Argh!? ...you insolent!”

In that moment, the icy cold emotionless expression of Himinglaeva-sama melted and she shouted. Those eyes of her contain both anger and astonishment. Moreover, it seemed that there was... faint sign of impatience.

Even though it was a scratch, but to be inflicted by an injury in the battle has cause Himinglaeva-sama to become serious. After retrieving the six combat ring, she dispersed them and began her the long range attack that she was good at!

[As if I will let you do that!]

The trail of death that was draw by the arc of the combat ring. I used my body as a shield to counter it after foreseeing each of the trail. The speed of Brynhildr sword became faster as she placed her trust in me and it caused more scratch to Himinglaeva-sama body.

“Argh! This... this speed... is much faster than her usual...”

Now, the position of this battle had reversed. Himinglaeva-sama was now defenseless after all her combat ring that she used for her defense was knock off.

The battle was decided at that momentarily gap. Brynhildr-sama pointed her sword toward Himinglaeva-sama as cold sweat flowed down her cheek.

“This is over. Or – do you want us to continue until your own daughter die? Aegir-sama.”

“... I gave up. Please don’t look at me with those weaving eye. The playfulness side of me came out since I lose my cool for a moment.”

Eeh— I couldn’t believe that... It was greatly suspicion since Aegir-sama raise both his hand in the air to imply that he surrendered instead of Himinglaeva-sama.

At that same moment, cheer could be heard coming from the back.

“Nee-sama! And Sei! That was great! What was that trick just now? ”

“Hm. To think that you were even able to transform into a sacred weapon... the rune of mannaz is quite amazing.”

“Ara~ ara~ It seems like Pork-chan can become whatever he wants now right~ Hey Pork-chan, Onee-chan have a request, it’s quite difficult for Onee-sama to find a bra that suits my cup size so, okay?”

“That... that is quite a shameless matter!? That’s outrageous! Ane-sama, that is too outrageous!”

“Ah, for god’s sake. Instead of that, you should come with me, Sei. I will teach you how to make that ability to be useful at it maximum output. Well, you just have to become a shiny rock that all.”

“Sei, Wige-nee-san is the only one that you shouldn’t follow. By the way, Sei... do you have any interest... with a magic book that was out of print three hundred year ago?”

“Se... Sei-kun... is there any chance that Sei-kun is able to become ‘love’, ‘courage’ or ‘happiness’!? That’s right, please grant me some existence!”

“Come on, Onee-chan! It’s quite lame that all of you are showing your desire! Can’t you see that you are causing trouble to Sei-kun?”

Yup, thank you Weisse since I was really troubled by this. But maybe I should ask Waltraute only for a detailed information on her request....

“Sei-san, are you alright? Even if you transformed into a shield, it must had hurt since you had to get struck by the combat ring out front...”

Unlike the majority off her sister who only cared about their own desire, Brynhildr-sama became worry on my body immediately.

While I was struck by the delightfulness, I undo the rune of mannaz and return back to my original boar form. At the same time, I said this confidently.

“I am completely fine! After all, I am surely safe because of the efficiency of Brynhildr-sama shield.”

“I’m glad to hear that. Moreover... thank you, Sei-san. Because of you, I am able to take the lead against Himinglaeva-sama for the first time.”

While saying that, Brynhildr-sama took a peek toward her rival. Then, instead

of saying something good, her rival began to express her discontent.

“Take the lead...? Please don’t joke about that, in the end, you win because you borrow the power of that boar only. That’s why I did not lose this match.”

“I see. You’re right. I will definitely repair my own sacred weapon one day. When that time come, let’s settle this once and for all. This was a nice fight, Himinglaeva.”

Brynhildr-sama extended her right hand. Although Himinglaeva-sama hesitated a bit but in the end she shook hand with Brynhildr-sama in a firm manner.

“I will not lose the next time...ouch!” (Himin)

“I will surely win the next time...ouch!” (Bryn)

Huh, this handshake, didn’t it seem a bit too firm? Since the hands were giving off a creaking sound.

This was also one of the friendship pattern... was it, ha ha...

“Okay. I’m sorry for the rudeness just now, I do aware that I am short-tempered but having self-control is a different manner. It seems that I behave recklessly in a flashy manner.”

After Himinglaeva-sama left the hall, we were back to square one.

“That’s not it! It was all my sake since I use my God Technique without thinking of the result. I am aware that this can’t be solved with just an apology but please forgive me.”

“No, it’s fine, let’s not cry over a spilled milk, I mean both of us. So since that was done, I will provide the information as promised. But...”

After saying all that, Aegir-sama became silent all of a sudden.

Especially this silence that gave off an uneasiness. But the next moment, the thing we heard after the silence was broken is a name that we didn’t expected.

“Since it had become that, no one will be able to obtain it. The location of the magic sword ‘Rigel’ is... inside of the mouth of the magic wolf, Fenrir.”

“Huh... Fenrir... mouth?”

After I said that, I recalled my last meeting with him.

First of all, I want to allow him to move only his mouth freely. Thus, I accepted Loki request on that. Then, we took out the sword that act as a rod and replace it with a huge sponge gourd which was disguise as a sword... after that, it seemed that... the original sword was at the bottom of the surrounding lake.

“Aah~~~!!” x2

The moment when we thought of that. Brynhildr-sama, who was the only one that knew the fact, and I sang a duet loudly.

While a question mark appear on top of the other heads, there was one thought that appear in both of our mind.

— That we need to go to ‘Lyngvi’.

Valhalla no Bangohan Volume 4 Interlude 2

Interlude 2 – The Boar and the Charming Brunch

After we received the precious information from Aegir-sama, my... no, Brynhildr-sama and I had decided on our next destination.

Even though I said that, both of us return to 'Valhalla' with the others first. Since we couldn't just excuse ourselves halfway through the errand mission.

After we returned, we planned to head toward 'Svartálfaheimr' immediately but we didn't do it since it was quite late. The journey to the solitary island, 'Lyngvi', where Fenrir was located, was quite far as we needed to go to 'Svartálfaheimr' first. Moreover, I am tired since from using 'Gullveig' today, thus we decided to delay this trip until tomorrow morning.

Then we welcomed the next morning—

"Good morning! Sei-san, are you there?"

Knock knock knock, the systematic sound came from the door of my room. Huh? It was a bit early from the promised time but it seemed that she had already come to meet me. It was the correct choice of me to finish my preparation earlier also.

"Good morning, Brynhildr-sama! I'm sorry for troubling you every time, so let's do our best..."

My greeting stopped halfway and my smile that I used for greeting became frozen.

Huh... that was strange, I couldn't see Brynhildr-sama at all. The one who was

opposite of the door was the sixth sister, Helmwig-sama.

“Good morning, Sei-san! It’s a great day today! ...as if that was true.”

“That... that... is voice imitation...!? What are you doing, Helmwig-sama!”

“Kakaka! It seems that you were completely fool by it. Is your love toward Ane-gimi that shallow?”

Argh, I couldn’t said anything at all. To think that I was unable to differentiate the voice of my beloved...!

“Ah, because of my love, it seems that I’d gotten a disease that cause everyone voice to sound like Brynhildr-sama...”

“Ah, isn’t that quite a hardship you are facing. Let me introduce a doctor to you, to help cure your head that is.”

“It’s fine! By the way, what are you doing here? Since I actually have plan to go out later.”

“Oh? Then, it’s a pity but that plan will need to be cancel. That is because you will have to accompany me from now on.”

Helmwig-sama announced that all of a sudden in a calm manner.

This... this fellow... I couldn’t turn a blind eye on this anymore. I’d have to properly give her a piece of my mind.

“Helmwig-sama! Since I already have plan for this, I will not heed your request!”

“Hm... you won’t listen it is. Even if I told you that it a matter that is related to the destruction of the world?”

“Yes, even if that is true.”

“Hm... is that so. I just wanted you to transform into a gem mountain but it’s a pity.”

“That is totally not related to the destruction of the world...”

I wondered why she gave such an example. Well, it was good that she withdrawn her request.

“Po~rk~chan. Are you here~?”

Then at that moment, the one who appear after Helmwig-sama was the fourth sister, Waltraute-sama.

“Yes. I’m here. What’s the matter?”

“Um... actually... ara? It seems that Wige-chan came here earlier~? Is there any chance that you already had plan~?”

Waltraute-sama noticed the presence of the previous guest just when she entered my room. And that uninvited guest leaned against the wall and answered in a displeasure manner.

“Hmph, I was completely rejected. Since it seem that he has already had plan for today.”

“In another word, Onee-san had a feeling that my request will also be~...”

“No, I’m fine with just hearing it. What is your request?”

“It’s exactly as what I said yesterday~. Is it bad... if you transform into One-san bra?”

“I will gladly accept it!!”

I had done it! My mouth acted on its own...! No, that was not the main thing. In the first place, could I really believe on her request yesterday which was to transform into her bra? I thought that was just a joke only...

—No. Don’t doubt it, Sei. She was serious, you’d understand if you looked at her eyes. Even though I had went and accepted, a true man would not go back on his word.

“Huh, why! Why did you accept it, Sei! You didn’t behave like this when I said that it was related to the destruction of the world!”

“Who went and decided that the world won’t get destroy if Waltraute-sama doesn’t wear a bra!”

“As if there will be someone who will decide something like that!”

Ee, shut up! I can’t stand it anymore. I will become Waltraute-sama bra!

“Ooooh! Rune of mannaz activate!”

I sharpened my sense and activated the rune that I was proficient at. After a brief flash, the charming foundation... I didn't... become one...?

It was an unexpected misfire. I was in my original boar form and nothing had changed at all.

"Ah. That's right.... actually in the first place, I don't even know how a bra look like... what a disgrace."

No, well since I was a guy after all. Moreover, my mother didn't need a bra since she was a boar and I didn't have a human lover either. It was also a bit weird if I kept observing my mother or my lover bra...

"In another word, you can't become what you don't know is it~?"

"Yes. Since the rune of mannaz is based in my thought, so I have to have a firm vision of the item in my head else..."

That right. That meant that when I used the rune of mannaz, it was necessary for me to have a detailed knowledge on the object that I planned to transform. There was no exception to this.

"Then, I will let you observe a bra~. Ah, but it's impossible for Onee-san since I don't wear one. Look here, since I am going commando right now~?"

"Is... is it alright for me to have a look!?"

"I didn't say that it's okay~?"

Ah, she didn't say it, what a pity. Damn it... you were lacking patient, Sei, so calm yourself down.

"That's why, Wige-chan, can I request you for that~?"

"How did it become like that! In the first place, I also do not wear a bra nor do I own one okay?"

"Ah... it does seem that Helmwige-sama have no need for that."

"Why do you seem so disappointed? If it is a camisole, then I am wearing one now but... I doubt you have any interest in it right?"

"I have interest!"

"Huh! You are really the worst, perverted boar."

Huh... this was bad... I had a feeling that Helmwig-sama evaluation of me had dropped significantly. Well, I didn't mind to be hated by her but it'd be a quite troublesome if she spread rumor about this. I guessed I had no choice but to use my gentleman spirit to deal with this situation.

"I understand that Pork-chan have an interest with lingerie but let's just focus on bra for now okay? I am sure my other sister possess a bra so why don't we ask them for reference?"

"Since you had put it that way... don't tell me!"

"Yes. Let's go to 'Vingólf'~"

— Just like this, I headed toward the Goddess dorm once again for an unexpected purpose. I had made plan to go to 'Lyngvi' with Brynhildr-sama today but there would not be any problem if I head to 'Vingólf'. Instead of waiting for her, I would be better if I went and welcomed her instead.

...Just let me say this first, the guy who went to 'Vingólf' repeatedly in the God Realm was only me, so don't forget about that.

This sweet position for the body and the mind belong to me, Saehrimnir.

Okay, we had arrived. To the Venus garden where men are restricted and boar were treated as a superior.

I was still unable to believe it even though I was here. That was because the reason why I came to this sacred area was to observe the bra of the Valkyrie.

No... I was aware of it. Although I had said hat but this turn of event was too weird. Since this exceed the normal Eros and the level for this was quite close to an end. But I wouldn't take a step backward.

"Ah, it's Sei-kun! Onee-chan, what is the reason for you to bring Sei-kun here in this early morning?"

We immediately found our first Venus. It was the ninth sister, lady Rossweisse. Ah~ it seemed that luck was not on Weisse side since she had made an encounter with us today. Although her normal behavior was like an angel.

"Good morning, Weisse-chan. It's a bit sudden but is Weisse-chan wearing a bra~"

“It’s... really is quite sudden. Um... that, of course I am wearing one but...”

While answering in a timid manner, Weisse took a peak at me. The moment when our eyes met, Weisse looked the other way in a hurry. Since the conversation was about undergarment, I believed that it was quite an embarrassing manner right?

“Yeah! That’s great to hear~ Then, can you show that to Pork-chan?”

“Eh? Eeh!?”

A silent moment stood still before the shout. Yup~, this reaction was completely normal. I believe that this could only come from Weisse.... No, I was pretty sure that anyone would also react in the same manner.

“That... that is something I can’t do, since it so embarrassing!”

Weisse rejected the absurd request from his sister with all she had. Oh my, it seemed that her face turn bright red up till her ear. But... I remembered that just some time ago she was fine talking with me in her negligee. I was happy for her growth yet sad by it.

“It’s not like I am referring to the one you are wearing now~? There is no problem if you just bring one to him.”

“If... if that is the case... wait, that will also be quite embarrassing! Why do you want to look at it that badly!?”

“Hmph. Waltraute is trying to teach the Sei here on the method to transform into a bra. For god’s sake, isn’t this something stupid?”

“It seems that what Wige-onee-chan said might be right this time...”

Eeh, I also had the same thought. But this was not something stupid. Since this was an important matter in ‘Asgard’.

That was why in order for us to acquire her cooperation, I spoke in the most gentleman manner in my whole life.

“Weisse, please rest assured. I will not force you if you don’t wish to do it. I swear to God on this. Then... can I ask you this instead. Who do you think will let me see her bra?”

“I believe that no one will let you see one.”

“Isn’t that right.”

That right, as if a person like that existed. I was well aware of it.

Aah, I shouldn’t have asked this if I am aware of it. To think that the leader of the good girl in ‘Asgard’, Weisse, was staring at me with scornful eye which was similar to Brynhildr-sama...

Damn, was this really an impossible manner? Were you saying that they wouldn’t allow me even though my existence was like that of a mascot? I thought that I’d be able to exceed that limit but...!

“Hmph. I’m sorry but I had heard your conversation just now.”

“! This voice... is Schwerte-sama!”

While folding her arm, the one who appear from the other side of the corridor was the fifth sister, Schwerte-sama.

It ws strange... even though she had listened to our conversation, she appeared to be quite relax. I thought that she banned these type of topic since she was the most serious among the sister... was there any possibility that she was willing to cooperate with us!?

“Please leave this to me! Here! This is my bra!”

Together with the illusion ‘Ta-daa’ sound, she took out a pure white cloth. That thin and long belt shaped, that it a...!

“Isn’t that just a breast binding cloth!”

“Yup, that is correct. But to me it is certainly a bra. Can’t this be use for your reference?”

“It’s a pity but it can’t be use.”

“An immediate response! Wait... why don’t we think about this again? Come and look at this material, it completely made out of cotton.”

“Oh, 100% cotton is it?”

“No, it’s 120%! Which is what the seller told me.”

“It’s impossible for it to exceed 100% normally.”

What a clever selling scheme from the seller! Schwerte-sama, you shouldn’t get con that easily!

“It’s quite a high quality cloth but in the end I am unable to use it as a reference... Even though you were brave enough to show us your chest binding cloth... ah! Perhaps... you are an exposé...!?”

Ah—perhaps Schwerte-sama like feeble joke? I was not sure whether I was able to laugh at that or not. (Chest binding cloth has the same pronunciation with expose) Anyway, it seemed that Schwerte-sama suffered a grave failure for this time also. Somehow I felt a bit sorry to her every time... but I was actually quite thankful for her cooperation and her attitude to take up a challenge, okay?

“Who else... ara? Over there, it seemed that someone was hiding behind the decorative plant~”

“!? No one is here, there is no one here, no one is absolutely here~~!!”

The escaping shadow that ran faster than an escaping rabbit. The figure that show off its existence by screaming was without a doubt, Gringerde-sama. Could I assume that she had eavesdrop on our conversation? I’d visit you later in your room, so wash your bra and wait for me.

“Oh, isn’t this Sei-shi. Is it the habit of a guy to... have a night and early-morning attack on a female dorm?”

Then, the third sister, Ortlinde-sama had appeared. Once again, she went ahead and suspected me on her own. I must defend myself here at all cost.

“That’s wrong! It’s not like I was in the middle of being interrogation since I was caught for attempting to trespassing, so it is absolutely not like that!”

“Thank for your explanation. I had understood it perfectly now.”

Somehow it seemed like the misunderstanding was getting worse as Ortlinde-sama was glaring at me in a hostile manner.

I... I had done it! I was just planning to deny that but it sounded like that was my true objective instead wasn’t it, the current me!

“It’s just so happen that I am in the mood of having some boar meat today. Choose between being hunted or being a game.” (Google game(food)) “Ah, wait for a moment! Waltraute-sama, please help me!”

“Linde-chan, please stop! Onee-san was the one who bought Pork-chan here~. Since I wanted to let Pork-chan to see everyone bra...”

“Is that as a souvenir for him to the underworld?”

“If that was the case, does it mean that you will let him see it~?”

“No, Waltraute-sama!? The conversation just went to the wrong direction!”

“...? Somehow I am unable to understand the purpose. If that is not a joke, then of course I am unable to cooperate.”

“Ah, if it was a joke, then you will cooperate is it~?”

“If Sei-shi intended for the punishment if it was not a joke then I am willing to do it.”

“I do not want that! I seriously am not hoping for that!”

“Ara, is that so...? Okay~ this is really is quite a difficult request~”

Waltraute-sama had a sad look on her face as she didn’t expect that there was no progress for this. Of course, this was not an easy manner. I had already lost all hope starting from the point that the kind Weisse had declined.

“What is with this commotion? Why is everyone gathered here? And to think that even Sei is here also!”

“What’s the matter? Sei! Did you come here this early in the morning to meet me?”

Uh-oh. Since the number had increased, Siegrune-sama and Gerhi-sama come to investigate the commotion.

“Ara ara, you had come at a good timing. Um... both of you are wearing bra right~?”

“Huh!?Bra!? What are you saying out of the blue!”

“Calm down, Siegrune, she just asking about our innerwear. I am wearing one of course, why did you ask that?”

Siegrune-sama face turned bright red while Gerhi-sama handled this manner calmly like an adult. Oh, Gerhi-sama was not embarrassed by this...? That meant I might have some chance!

“It might sound a bit rude but~ that bra, can you let Pork-chan to take a peek of it~”

“Haa~~? Sure, I’m fine with it? But after I gouge out his eyes.”

Argh, Siegrune-sama was now cracking her finger in an extremely calm manner! It was as if the feeling of being disgusted of her was slowly changing to angry.

“Why... why do I have to show that to a gentlemen!? I don’t understand the purpose for this! If I went and done that... then I must get mar... marry!”

“Eh... is there such rule?”

I was not aware of that as well. It was not as if she was an elf from somewhere.

Moreover, Gerhi-sama, your attitude completely changed the moment when you was told to show it. Well, normally you wouldn’t be ask to do that so it obvious that she would be flustered.

Fuu... let’s just say that all member up until now wouldn’t show me their bra. That meant we were left with two person which were the eight sister, Grimgerde-sama and our elder sister, Brynhildr-sama only— At that moment, Brynhildr-sama appeared at a timing as if it was planned early. Grimgerde-sama was also present while hiding.

“Sei-san... I heard from Grimgerde that you are seeking for help. But... to think that Sei-san has that strong desire for a female underwear...”

“No, that’s wrong!? Moreover, you were also wrong on the most important matter! Actually, the one who wanted it was not me but Waltraute-sama.”

Yup, for god’s sake. Grimgerde-sama, to think that went and inform false information to Brynhildr-sama without listening to the conversation properly... I’d never forgive you even if you apologized okay?

“Ah... um... I’m sorry for my misunderstanding! I also thought it was strange

but... it sounded quite reasonable if it was Sei-kun..."

"Can you choose between apologizing and insulting? Grimgerde-sama."

Ah, I got it. It seemed like she had no plan to apology to me at all.

While I was looking at the best timing... to clear this grudge of me, Helmwege-sama hit her hands and said this.

"Okay. Since all of the sister are present now, we could inform you the correct information. As a conclusion, 'To let Sei to see a bra is something impossible'. Isn't that right?"

"I'm not sure why Helmwege is taking the lead but that the truth."

"Eh, does that mean that Brynhildr-sama will not let me see yours also?"

"It... it's not possible for me to let you see it! Since it's so embarrassing!"

Brynhildr-sama who rejected it with a vigour like a raging fire was also cute. I'm sorry, since I asked about it even though I was aware of it.

"Hey Sei, don't interrupt our conversation. ...well, what should we do now? Should we try a 'Lucky draw for bra' right now?"

"'Lucky draw for bra'...?" x9

Our voice overlapped each other perfectly after hearing the Helmwege-sama mysterious suggestion. But for me, it sound liked something exciting instead.

"What... what is that exactly?"

"Fu fu fu... in another word. Among us sister who are wearing a bra, they will need to throw each bra in a box. Of course, it will anonymous. Then, one lucky bra will be randomly draw from the box to let Sei observe. How is that? By doing this, Sei won't know whose bra is it so it will be less embarrassing right?"

"Agree! What a brilliant suggestion!"

"Isn't that right~? Since I am a genius after all! Ka ka ka!"

My body suddenly desired to have a handshake with Helmwege-sama unintentionally. But I was using my hoof instead. To think that she had voice out a proposal that was in favour of me at this point!

“That’s nice~ that sounded like it will be quite interesting! Let’s do it~ okay? Everyone.” (Walt) “Okay? Huh... Walt-nee-san, you shouldn’t treated this as if it’s other people problem~!” (Sch)

“That’s right... that is really a good suggestion. Since we don’t know whose bra will be chosen, it’s easy to hide our identity as long as we maintain a poker face.” (Gerhi) “Ah, that’s right! If that is the case, then I will participate in this for Sei-kun sake!” (Ross) “Hm, this is quite interesting. Linde will also participate.” (Ort)

“Eh!? Why... why is everyone being so confident now!? I am sure that I won’t be able to maintain my composure!” (Grim) “You... to think that you had the guts to say that while you are wearing a mask.” Well, if everyone is doing it... it’s not like I’m not fine with it okay? Of course, it depend on Hildr-nee-san.” (Sieg) “Eh... I...”

Brynhildr-sama was shocked and trembled as Siegrune-sama who was acting brave in an obvious manner entrusted the final call to her.

So, Brynhildr-sama, what was your decision? If you wanted me to improve myself then please shake your head in a vertical manner. Once you do that, my rune of mannaz would be close to being perfect! Come! Decide!

“~~!! I get it already! We will go with this ‘Lucky draw for bra’!”

Yahoo—! Thank you! Than you very much!

I made a guts pose with all my might in my heart as an appreciation to this insane development.

More like it had already become an insane matter! What was with the ‘Lucky draw for bra’! This was outright strange!

“So, let’s change our location to my room... the first ‘Valkyrie Bra lottery tournament’ is about to begin~!” (Helm) “Huh... didn’t the intention for this just change!?”

As expected of Siegrune-sama to give a retort but I wondered what was that. In order to keep myself from being harmed, I didn’t try to stop the high spirit Helmwig from acting recklessly.

“Well, let’s just ignore the event name. Then— the content of this ‘Bra box’ contain six out of the nine Valkyrie bra! Are all of you ready?”

Bravo for the bra box! Please do continue!

“The participants are the elder sister, Brynhildr. The second sister, Gerhilde. The third sister, Ortlinde. The seventh sister, Siegrune. The eight sister, Grimgerde. And the nine sister, Rossweisse. There will be no regret no matter which bra you get. Then... let’s draw it now? Darararara~”

While happily making the drum roll sound, Helmwig-sama put her hand in the box and stir it up. Huh...? Judging by this development, are you telling me that Helmwig-sama is the one who will draw it?

Sigh, so I was not the one who would draw it. I thought that anything was possible at this point but I am a bit disappointed.

“Vo~la! This is it!”

The bra that was drawn was a pure snow white bra. That most valuable that symbolize purity was now bought toward my front leg. This, the essence wouldn’t change even if I am the one who draw it right?

“Um... that... is it really... alright for me to observe this...?”

I sneaked a peek toward everyone as I was feeling guilty at this last minute.

“Huh, everyone have a blank expression!!”

That’s right! Everyone was putting on their poker face so that I was unable to know who the owner was! ...They werenot looking at me as if I was a trash... right?

Let... let’s just put aside the manner of the owner of the bra latter. First, I needed to concentrate on my objective which was to transform into a bra...

“Hm... I see... so a bra is made by joining a few parts together. It seem that the main component which is the cup is made out of a soft component and the shoulder strap is quite tough. It seem like something similar to a wired was used... that why it is able to support the bust properly. The side strap is connected to the back and it can be hook to make it firm. It seem like it will be easy to take it off once you are used to it.”

Okay, I was able to understand it generally now. Since I had understand about it, there would be no problem for me to transform into one.

Then... what's left was... to identify the owner of this bra...

"Hmm~"

I continued pretending to observe the bra then I slowly shifted my sight to observe the Valkyrie instead. Then— it was time for me to start my investigation.

I'd start from Weisse. It seemed that her eyes were slowly becoming more lively now, maybe it was because she had gotten bored of the plan. Putting that aside, somehow wasn't this bra a bit too big for Weisse? I was pretty sure she was not flat but she was still far from being plump. The proof was from the sensation that I felt through my back previously. With this—I was able to exclude Weisse from this.

How about Grimgerde? ...It was no good. Although she was fidgeting constantly, I was unable to figure out her facial expression because of the mask. But she wouldn't be able to fool me with her attitude. Since it was her, I was pretty sure that wouldn't be able to remain silent if her bra was drawn. Moreover, she would definitely scream and faint due to the shock. Thus, the probability that this belonged to her was zero.

Next was Siegrune-sama but... it was a good thing that her personality was like an open book. Since she was able to remain a poker face, it was a clear fact that this did not belong to her. Since she was close to being flat, so this bra was surely not her. That was why she would be excluded.

Oh, the next one was Ortlinde-sama but this would be hard. That was because her poker face was something normal. To be honest, it was impossible to know whether it was her by looking at her expression alone. So, the key to solve this mystery was by her bust size... but I had a feeling that it would fit her well. So the single remaining question was whether she liked 'white' bra. ...I'd remain her in the list of suspect for now.

After that, was the obstacle known as Gerhi-sama. Her poker face was so perfect that I was not able to get a hint of her expression at all. Moreover, judging from her noble personality, white did not suit her at all. How about the

bust size? ...It was possible and impossible... Sight, I absolutely had no idea at all. As expected of the one who possessed the best behaviour among her sister, since she was giving me a hard time for this.

The last one was — my beloved Brynhildr-sama. I thought that a poker face was a burden for her since she was an ally of justice but I was surprised she was able to maintain it. I was a getting a feeling that she was hoping that she would be able to overcome this peacefully. Without saying anything, the bust size was a perfect fit. The colour was reasonable since I had saw her in white negligee previously. The design was perfect since it was not too plain nor it too vibrant. I had complete my investigation. ...Just now, did someone laugh at me?

Damn it... I was able to clear the suspect down to three but this was as far as I could go. This was like the Bermuda triangle for the bra. I was sure that this mystery would not be solved even if 'Ragnarok' had arrived.

"Hm...I am satisfy now... I mean... I have completed my research! I am pretty sure that I am now able to transform into Waltraute-sama bra anytime!"

"Really~? That's great. Then can you transform into one tonight~?"

"Please rest assured!"

I answered while raising my hind leg that I was proficient with.

Okay~ the long awaited moment had arrived. Somehow everyone loosing up their poker face and was now looking at me coldly instead but I was not bother with how other perceived me at this point of time.

"Ah, but... it will be quite embarrassing if Pork-chan turn into a bra while being alive.... Do you have any solution for that~?"

Any solution... since that was asked toward me, there was only one answer since for that.

"Um... well... then I will have to die only..."

"Will it be fine if you die?"

"No, I won't be fine but..."

This is the first time I heard this unexpected phrase which is whether I will be fine if I die. Even though this world id huge, I am sure that that is the only

phrase that I will never hear.

“I will remain in my transformation when I die if I did not undo it. That why I will remain as a bra if I died after transforming into one.”

“But... if that is the case, then Pork-chan will have to be sacrificed in the end...”

Waltraute-sama muttered in a distress manner and stopping her sentence halfway. After that, the silence continued among us for a while but unexpectedly Weisse started a debate.

“Raute-onee-chan. Why don’t we just give up on the bra? Since it’s quite foolish if Sei-kun lost his life just because of this.”

“Yup~ it’s a pity but you’re right~. I’m sorry, Pork-chan, Onee-san had made a mistake~”

That meant...

This ‘Bra commotion’ that was the first in ‘Asgard’ history was abandoned and it had ended in a peaceful manner.

“Oh~, I was wondering what will happen but I am able to relax now. It’s good that it was concluded in a reasonable manner. Ah, I’m sorry, please allow me to return this.”

“Ah, yes, thank you very much.”

While saying that, the one who receive the bra from me was Brynhildr-sama.

“....eh?”

In that moment, the atmosphere become a standstill.



Everyone had seen it. In this moment where a bra brought together a human and a beast.

Brynhildr-sama face slowly turned bright red and she said this after she quickly snatched the bra from the dumfounded me.

“Ah...!! No... that’s not it, you... you made a mistake! It’s not like this belongs to me, you see, I am the elder sister after all! I am accepting this on behalf of my sister! Okay I had put it in the box now! Everyone please retrieve it afterward!”

Brynhildr-sama immediately put it into the box but Helmwig-sama handmade ‘Bra box’ was destroyed as she was unable to control her strength since she was flustering. Thus, all the bra that was inside the box was scatter on the ground.

“Wah!! My bra came out!”

“Hey!! What are you doing Onee-san! Don’t look over here, you pervert!”

“I... I should rely on my speed here! ...okay, I am able to retrieve it.”

“Hii!? Ah, sigh~...”

“Oh, as expected, Grim really fainted. Ah, actually Linde pretended to put her bra into the box so it was not inside of it in the first place.”

The bra was immediately retrieved after it fall from the box since everyone pick up their own bra.

In other word... since everyone other than Brynhildr-sama retrieved their own bra desperately, it was obvious who was the owner of the white bra...

“...!!”

Brynhildr-sama ran out of the room while suppressing her urge to scream.

“Ah... where are you going, Ane-sama! Sei-dono, shouldn’t you chase after her as a gentleman?”

“No, that’s wrong, Schwerte-sama. A true gentleman will not chase after her instead. it’s a pity but the one who can heal her now is ‘time’.”

At least I was aware that it was impossible to head to 'Lyngvi' today... I would be nice that I was able to see her being energetic again after forgetting what had happened today by tomorrow or at least the day after tomorrow...

Well, I'd never forget the thing that I had experienced.

Valhalla no Bangohan Volume 4 Chapter 5

Chapter 5 – The Colour of the Good and Evil Position

“Good... good morning, Sei-san. Come, let us go now.”

In the early morning. I didn't expect Brynhildr-sama to recover from that after one night rest as she came and welcome me who was waiting at 'Valhalla'.

“Good morning Brynhildr-sama! Um... about the matter yesterday.”

“Let's not talk about that.”

“Roger.”

Um... since I'd never talk about it so I wished that you could remove your hand from your waist sword.

“Our plan got delay by one day because of me so let's try our best to recover as much time as possible. That's why I bought Grani-kun over with me today.”

“That explains it, let's do our best today, Sei-san.”

“Yup, let's do our best, Grani-kun!”

While I tried to move my front leg to give a salute, Grani-kun laughed out and gentle bite on the nape of my neck. After that, he gently threw me to his back.

Brynhildr-sama caught me after I made a gentle curve and I settled down at my usual position.

“Fu fu. Then Sei-san, I understand that you are aware of this since we have went there a few time already but... the journey will be long. Moreover, I think that it will took almost a day so will you be fine?”

“Yes! There will be no problem at all!”

Although we were relying on Grani-kun this time, it wouldn't be as fast as the first time where we cast 'Ehwaz on three person' so it'd take some time until we reached our destination.

“Hey Sei-san, I'm sorry. This might sound like an excuse but I am more of a power type instead of an agile type. Please pardon me as I am not suitable in these emergency time.”

“What are you talking about, Grani-kun! There is no need for you to purposely apologize for that since we are best friend after all!”

“Huh? Best friend...?”

After hearing that reply, I shouted 'I had done it.' in my heart. This was bad... my desire to become best friend with Grani-kun had been rejected twice. Even though it was one sided, didn't I just expose on the fact that I thought he was my best friend without getting his permission!

“Ahh... that's not it, I'm sorry. Since it still early to rank up from a friend to best friend after all...”

“Hmm? Rank up? ...Ah! So this is what you meant when you mention that you want us to be more than friend!”

As if he had finally understood something, Grani-kun shouted in an unusual manner. Eh... I wondered how did he misunderstood that. Normally, wouldn't that be the first thing that came in mind when one mention to be more than friend?

“That was my bad, Sei-kun. If that is the case, then there is no reason for me to reject it. From today onward, we are genuine best friend.”

“! Gra... Grani-kun...! Thank you!”

Yeah! I had no idea what had happened but I had succeeded on my sudden proposal to rank up on our friendship!

Yup~ since it came to this, it was normal for a human or a boar to have selfish desire. Instinctively, I had the urge to deepen our friendship to a whole new level.

“Hey, Grani-kun. Since we had become best friend now... I think that we are ready for the next step.”

“Next step? What’s that?”

“That’s bad of you, don’t make me said such insensitive matter. Since we are talking about a relationship that is more than best friend... the only choice left is that only right?”

Grani tilted his head toward my word and close his eyelid as if he was using his own wisdom to answer this. After a few seconds— I was not sure what he had thought of but he had rejected me in a manner that surpassed the past two rejection.

“I reject! It’s impossible for us to be more than best friend! Please forgive me but let’s us just settle with being best friend only!”

“I see... it’s a pity but I understand. But... I believe that we will become that one day.”

That’s right—the next level— was ‘True friend’.

But I wonder what happened. After that, Grani-kun was trying his best to point his tail downward as if he had decided not to let me see his butt.

After I had settled my relationship with Grani-kun, Brynhildr-sama activated the rune of ‘rad’. Then, all of us immediately arrived at the shore of ‘Svartálfaheimr’.

From there onward, we’d be relying on Grani-kun. Even though he was unable to beat his father, Sleipnir or Frey-sama golden boar, Gullinbursti, he was still one of the leading swift horse in this world. He galloped at a speed that pierced through the perpetual night sky like a shooting star.

After a few hour later, we had arrived at our destination which was the solitary island, ‘Lyngvi’ earlier than what Brynhildr-sama predicted.

“Thank you for waiting, Sei-san, we had arrived at our destination.”

After Grani-kun landed gallantly on the solitary island, Brynhildr-sama brought me down from his back. Then I was put on the ground gently and I immediately headed toward to meet Fenrir.

“Hey~ Fenrir~!”

The place that I was rushing was the centre of the island where a crater can be found, a giant wolf could be seen there who was sleeping while using the giant boulder as a bolster.

“...So it was you. Don't scared me since I had just put the sword back to my mouth.”

While complaining, Fenrir bent the sword in his mouth and spitted it out.

The spitted sword bounce on the ground for a few time before it turned back to its original shape.

Yup, as expected of a customized made sponge gourd sword. It worked exactly the way that we had wanted it to.

But other than that... he didn't restraint himself as usual when he wagged his tail. I understand he was happy with our reunion but I think it would be better if he was able to hide his obvious self-assertion.

“Hey Fenrir, stop wagging your tail. Since there is a great cloud of sand.”

“Ha!? It's not like I am wagging it! Doesn't that sound like I am happy with meeting you! I will bite your head off!”

Fenrir showed us his threatening objection face while baring his fangs by opening his mouth as wide as possible until grapevine gave off a shrieking sound. But it was a pity that he didn't stop wagging his tail.

“Tch... so what's the matter? Why did you come here which is at the end of the world? I believe that you didn't come here to seek for more wisdom or you wanted to have another bothersome discussion right?”

“That's not it, so please rest assured. The reason for us coming here, is not you Fenrir.”

The moment when I answered him, both Fenrir tail and ear literally faced downward. Sigh, I went and done it. Didn't you say that you hate to be bothered?

“Well, previously there was a huge sword that was stick to your mouth right? We had come here to retrieve it actually.”

“Ah... so it’s that damn annoying lump of steel. What do you plan to do with it?”

“It’s something necessary to set you free. But it’s not like it will be used directly.”

“Huh? To think that sword which is a pain in my mouth can contribute to my freedom. He he, that’s good, since it doesn’t sound like a sarcasm at all.”

Fenrir said that as if he was able to sense the unfortunate encounter that I faced. That sounded like the truth if you put it that way... as expected it seemed like the goddess of luck was frowning at me.

“So that why, Fenrir. Do you remember which part of the lake did I throw the sword?”

“Huh, didn’t you said that you have no use for me!”

Argh, well that was the truth.... That time, I went and throw that sword to the lake in an easy going manner and without thinking twice. Moreover, most of the object in this island was blown away by Fenrir roar, so there wasn’t much landmark here that I could remember.

“Sniff sniff.... It’s pointless. I am unable to track it with my sense if smell since it had sunken to the bottom of the lake for quite some time already. Well since you had the rune of mannaz, why don’t you transform into a suitable sea creature and look for it?”

“Ya... that’s right... sigh, it seems that I have no choice other than that...”

When I let out a sigh from my depressed face, Brynhildr-sama hit her hand as if she had thought of something.

“Sei-san, it’s a bit late for me to say this now but... if it was possible, why don’t Sei-san just transform into that sword?”

“Eh? Into that sword... ah, that’s right! I still have that method!”

As expected of Brynhildr-sama, that was a nice idea!

Right, since I was able to transform into Brynhildr-sama sacred weapon the day before yesterday after all. So it’d be easy for me to transform into a magic sword or two. Instead of that, I wondered why didn’t I thought of that.

I was able to have a proper look at the aforementioned magic sword when I took it out from Fenrir mouth, so I was able to have a firm imagine of it.

“Okay, let’s do it! Haaaaa, rune of mannaz!!”

I activated the rune of mannaz after putting it my greatest fighting spirit and heart into it.

But somehow— nothing had happen at all.

“Huh? That’s strange... rune of mannaz! Mannaz!”

Even though I became tenacious and retried it for a few time, I was unable to transform into one at all. Hey, I was unable to accept the fact that the transformation into that magic sword was more difficult than a Valkyrie sacred weapon.

“Hm... now that I thought of it, Sei-san why were you able to transform into my sacred weapon the day before yesterday?”

“Actually... I am not so sure about that also. I was able to transform into a dragon from the start and for the transformation of Fenrir and Gullinbursti, I have a suddenly desire of ‘becoming’ on a certain day only.... It the same for the transformation of the sacred weapon, I was able to transform into that after my strong thought to become one, that the gist of it.”

“Huh? Hold it. Are you saying that you were even able to transform into me?”

Fenrir enquired me the moment he heard his name was mentioned and I responded with a careless nod.

“Are... are you for serious, I am unable to believe that at all... you really are not a normal being at all, that explain why my father is interested with you.”

“Is that the truth? Come on~ you are making me feel shy if you, the mighty magic wolf said that, ha ha ha.”

“But that feature. To be able to become anything just by having a strong thought, aren’t you quite similar to that? ...which is a cockroach.”

“!? Wait for a moment, what did you just said!? Why are saying that I am like cockroach!?”

That was really rude! Wasn't there a better way to say that instead of saying that I was like a cockroach? I'd not be able to get over this if I didn't get a detailed explanation from him!

"That is because, they seem to be able to fly the moment when they thought about it."

"No, that is just a folklore only! It's just a downright rumour only! By the way, instead of flying they are actually just gliding in the sky! Moreover, it's not like all cockroach is able to fly since there is a lot of condition for it! For example the temperature! You need to be caution if you are able to hear large buzzing sound in the middle of the night like a sultry night. Moreover, since they like wood so it's possible for them to appear in a new-build wooden house. In addition, they are able to survive without eating anything for two weeks, they are able to run at a distance which is forty time their height within one second and the female can give birth to approximately three hundred..."

"Wait, stop right there... why are you so knowledgeable about that? Don't tell me, you are..."

Eh? That's wrong? That is because there is a saying that...in order to win you need to study your enemy well right? I know it because of that."

"Se... Sei-san truth identity is a coc..."

"That's not true at all!? I am sure that not it!! So please don't look at me like that, Brynhildr-sama!!"

I... I needed to solve the mystery behind my power right away or else it'd become a troublesome manner! Okay, let's us end the search for the magic sword immediately so that I could go on a journey of self-discovery next!

Thus, I used the rune of mannaz to transform into a seal. Before jumping into the lake... I did some warm up first as a safety precaution.

"Ah, let me help too. I am wearing my swimsuit beneath my clothes since I thought that this might happen."

"!?"

Swim... swimsuit!? Brynhildr-sama, did you mention swimsuit just now!?

Immediately after saying that, she started to take off all her equipment. What appeared together with her lustrous skin is the blue bikini style swimsuit which was the same colour as her armour. It was the perfect design for a tidy female as it was just a simple swimsuit without any decoration.

“...Beautiful...”

“Se... Sei-san, please... don’t look at me that much... since it’s embarrassing.”

“Ah... I’m sincerely sorry!”

That was close. Even though I was the number one gentleman in the boar world, I unintentionally stared at her. But now I was a seal okay?

But it was impossible for a person to not look at all. Regardless whether the appearance of the charming swimsuit or the posture to hide her body, both of it had certainly lit the fire known as curiosity and spirit of inquiry inside of me. That explained why I was attracted to look at her even after I excluded my ulterior motive.

Putting that aside... there was a single question that popped up in my mind and it was not related to that thought.

“Um... Brynhildr-sama. Why am I not allowed to look at your swimsuit appearance even though both Fenrir and Grani-kun are looking at it also?”

“Eh!? That is because... Grani-kun is like a family to me and since Fenrir is a gentleman despite his appearance, so I am unexpectedly fine with that...”

Hmm? Maybe it was just my imagination, else it was imply that I was a different type of gentleman than Fenrir...right? That couldn’t be true, I didn’t think that Brynhildr-sama view me in that manner.

“If that is the case, then I will be Fenrir right now! Be shock as my name is ‘the magic wolf’ Fen...”

“No, you can’t do that!! Sei-san, you are still prohibited from looking even if you become Fenrir!!”

“That... how could that... then what should I do so I can stare at your swimsuit?”

“No matter what you do, you can’t look! If you want to look at it that much

then please steal a glance in a quietly manner! Ah, that's not what I meant, it's not like I am suggesting you to do that at all..."

Yea, I'd done it! With this, I was able to enjoy looking at her swimsuit appearance freely! That was because I had gotten permission from the person herself! ...But, Brynhildr-sama, weren't you being a bit too careless...?

...I needed to reflect on this. I apologized for being an existence that was much inferior to a cockroach...

After all that, we began our expedition.

I thought that I'd be able to find it if I just jumped into the lake but it was much darker than expected. Moreover, the lake was much deeper than I thought, even if I wanted to dive to the bottom to search for the aforementioned magic sword, I was unable to see anything at all. I had planned to steal a glance at the swimsuit if things went well but it seemed to be an impossible act.

(Is it here? Or is it here? Argh... I am afraid of searching it by hand. Even if I do manage to found it, I might get cut if I touch the blade... I wonder if Brynhildr-sama is alright.)

When I looked around as I was worry about her, I saw a big swaying ball of fire. That fire was from the rune of 'Kenaz' which was one of the runic magic of Brynhildr and it was quite mystical as it did not get extinguish by the water.

Anyway, I could be at ease since Brynhildr-sama had a light source. After I regained my senses, I started to swim slowly toward the bottom by stroking with my front leg. Then, instead of my front leg, my face was touched by something.

(Wah, that scared me. What's this? It's quite soft... for a boulder.)

While I carefully examine it with my hand, that thing that was in front of me started to move.

This... was this by chance a living being!? Hold it, it did not have the size of human... don't tell me that this is a kraken or some other monster...?

Damn it, I didn't heard that this lake was the home to such monster!

Brynhildr-sama would be in danger if I let this thing to escape. Since that was the case... I'd defeat it alone!

(The greedy fellow, my name is — 'The greedy fallen dragon' Fafnir!)

I used my skilled rune of mannaz to transform into a dragon and grabbed the monster tightly. Okay, I had caught it! Time to swim upward at once since I'd be in a disadvantage to have an undersea battle with a kraken!

I flapped my solid wing that wouldn't lose to the water pressure and I immediately reached the surface from the bottom. The water was divided magnificently into half after I flew out from it and the thing that I was holding is — not the tentacle of a kraken but instead it was Brynhildr-sama. Moreover, she was trying to escape from me by cutting off my finger with her sword right now.

"Hold... hold it for a moment, it's me... it's me... it's me!"

"Ah! Sei, Sei-san! What was that all about... since that surprised me."

Brynhildr-sama stopped her sword and gave off a big sigh. I see... it seemed that both of us thought the same thing. I was so happy since it seemed we had a good compatibility...

"Well~ I didn't think that it was Brynhildr-sama. Since I saw a ball of fire at a distance, so I was sure that you were over there."

"I'm sorry... I thought that if I leave the ball of fire at a fixed location, then it will be able to lighten up the lake. It seem like I had gotten close to Sei-san position without realizing it. It seemed that it would be better if I carry a light with me instead of prioritizing on saving the magic power. That was careless of me."

While saying that, Brynhildr-sama ducked her head in an apologetic manner. No, I was also to blame here. If the two of us were to plan to continue the search in the lake, then it would be better if we had a strategy for it.

While thinking about that, I looked downward and saw the water splash due to the two side of water that was crashing against each other since it was split due to the force of me flying out of it.

“...huh? Since it had become this... that right! I might be able to use this!”

Unintentionally, I let out a cry of joy. After looking at me, Brynhildr-sama also had a happy expression on her face.

“Sei-san, is there any chance that you had thought of something again?”

“Yes! Brynhildr-sama, please look at the bottom of the lake while I go and split the lake by crashing to the surface with all I got.”

“! Roger that, as expected of Sei-san! By doing that, we will be able to look at the bottom of the dark lake without a need to dive into it! Please leave it to me, I will definitely find the magic sword!”

Brynhildr-sama replied with in an exciting manner and took her position after spreading her wing. After we exchanged eye contact with each other, I flew up briefly to increase the distance and descending toward the lake vigorously.

My fist which was supported by my weight had divided the lake into half. I landed on the bottom of the divided lake and looked toward the sky and Brynhildr-sama shouted out while pointing at a single point.

“Sei-san, I found the magic sword! It’s on your left at your back!”

“!!”

After I went to the designated place, the magic sword ‘Rigel’ was indeed vertically impale to the ground.

I immediately grabbed the hilt with my tail and flew up. It was so heavy that my tail hurt but I somehow was able to overcome and dropped the sword at the shore.

“Phew~, we had finally obtained the magic sword.”

“You have done well, Sei-san! That was quite cool!”

After I turned back to my boar form, Brynhildr who had descended immediately gave a congratulation hug. Ah, this sensation... I could do my best anytime as long as I have this.

Anyway, with this we had managed to complete the task given by Loki. I’d be able to boast all I wanted since I expected that he didn’t have any much hope

for me. I couldn't wait until we meet each other now.

"Um... Brynhildr-sama."

"Yes, what's the matter?"

"Just now when we bump into each other in the water, may I ask where did I touch you?"

"...Ah....um... I wonder where it was. Ha ha ha..."

Brynhildr-sama averted her eye while blushing and she slowly moved me away from her chest.

—Okay, we had found our answer. Somehow, I didn't believe that this was a coincidence since I had a lot of encounter with breasts recently.

Anyway, I was really lucky.

After I had imprinted Brynhildr-sama swimsuit appearance in my retina and the feeling of her breast in my brain, I went and met up with her who had finish changing behind the big boulder.

"I only realize it now but... isn't this sword a bit too big, it's not possible for us to bring this back. I wonder how exactly Sigurd-san wielded this."

"Well, he didn't exactly use this when it's in this form. Since Odin-sama had cast a runic magic to enlarge it so that it'd fit Fenrir mouth. It will return back to normal if we dispel it but... it's a pity that I..."

While saying that, Brynhildr-sama ducked her head in an apologetic manner.

I see... I'd be troublesome if we asked Odin-sama but it would be best if we manage to find a runic magic caster that happened to know the spell.

Well...the only runic magic caster that we knew and would help us immediately are Loki and Siegrune-sama only.

"There is no choice. It a pity but let us leave it here and discuss with Loki about this later."

While saying that, I remove my dragon transformation and reverted back to my boar form.

"Ho? Hey Sei, what is the thing that you want to discuss about?"

“Of course, it about...eh!? That voice is...!”

At that moment— I heard a familiar voice coming from the sky. I was unable to hold my excitement since it had been a while since I heard this voice. The owner of the voice is the person that I mentioned just now—

“Loki! It had been a while! I amaze that you knew we were here.”

“Well, who do you think I am? It was quite easy if I just ask Ratatoskr.”

The one who appear magnificently while mounting on the living legend, the eight legged military horse, Sleipnir is the God of trickster, Loki.

“Father...”

While looking at the appearance of Loki and Sleipnir, Fenrir and Grani-kun words overlap against each other. Ah, that right. Fenrir was the son of Loki and Grani-kun was the son of Sleipnir. So it couldn't be blame if their word overlapped each other.

Putting that aside, it really had been a while since I met Loki. I couldn't believe that we hadn't met for this long ever since he chose to remain in 'Helheim' to search for the whereabouts of the Dwarf Blacksmith, Regin.

Since Loki had come here, that meant... that Loki had made some progress from his side.

“You have arrived at the perfect timing, Loki. Look here, it seems that the sword that we threw away previously was actually the magic sword, Rigel'. He he, I had fulfilled the end of my promise properly!”

While saying that, I puffed up my chest.

“Oh, so this is... you have done well, Sei, as expected of my partner. To be frank, I had run into difficulties from my side, so this really helps a lot.”

“Come on, there is no need for you to say that. So... you ran into difficulties? As expected, is it about the fact that even Loki is unable to locate Regin?”

“It's fine. Even though he had cause me trouble, I will take proper responsibilities and find him at all cost.”

“Oh! That's why...”

“But—“

I became excited after hearing the goods new but Loki overlapped with my word with his penetrating voice.

“The circumstance had changed. I will keep the ‘Rigel’ that you had found but... it’s a pity that we had to temporarily halt our search for the sword ingredient.”

“Eh...?”

That sudden declaration. Brynhildr-sama and me and even Fenrir who was behind me looked at each other in sync as if there was a dramatic change to our plan.

“I’m sorry for being selfish. Since it means we had to put a temporarily halt with the Fenrir matter... but I had obtained quite an outrageous information. It’s happy that we have found ‘Rigel’...”

Loki had a complicated expression on his face at the same time when he said that. I wondered what happened... from the look at it, he seemed a bit sad as if he sympathized with someone.

No matter which it was—I didn’t believe that it would be good news at all.

“Sei. And... that’s right, Brynhildr also. Can you follow me without asking anything? There is something I want you to see... and something I want to tell you.”

Those eyes didn’t allow us to reject all.

Since Brynhildr-sama and I weren’t unable to say anything, we mounted on Grani-kun and followed after Loki and we had left ‘Lyngvi’ in this manner.

Valhalla no Bangohan Volume 4 Chapter 6

Chapter 6 – The Color of the Curse that Murders its Owner

After Loki retrieved ‘Rigel’ by turning it back to its original size with his runic magic, we had arrived at a place that was at the most east of ‘Lyngvi’.

The place that we were guided to was a lonely river beach that was located at the boundary between ‘Svartálfaheimr’ which was home to the dark elves where ‘Lyngvi’ was located at and the neighbor country, ‘Niflheim’ which was home to the dwarf.

“Is this our destination? Loki. It doesn’t seem like there is anything here...”

After I was put down by Brynhildr-sama from the back of Grani-kun, I looked around the place while making sound with my hoof at the damp riverside. For some reason it seem that Loki became speechless while looking at me but he pointed toward the upstream and said this.

“Can you see the small waterfall over there? Actually, there is a hidden cave behind it. Let’s have our conversation over there. Sleipnir and Grani, both of you will need to remain here. It’s not that bad to have some time with your family right?”

While saying that, Brynhildr-sama and I followed after Loki. Behind the waterfall, there was a wide hidden cave which was exactly as stated by Loki.

I felt like this was not an environment that a playful child would make as their hidden base... moreover, it didn’t seem like anyone lived here. The only thing here was—.

“This is... a smithy... right?”

There was a dead end at the end of the cave. The thing that can be found there was a small bellow and various size of hammer. In addition, there was also a worn out anvil. It exactly as what Brynhildr-sama stated just now, it seemed like this was someone's smithy.

I wondered how long had it been abandon... it felt like it hadn't been use for a few hundred year again but it also had the feeling that it was used recently. This unpleasant lifestyle was... if I had to say it, it as if 'a corpse had lived here' — it fitted nicely if you thought in that manner.

"...this place... is a hidden home for a certain Dwarf. Can you see the drop of scrap rolling over there? Previously, it seems that a large amount of gold was accumulated around that area."

After listening to Loki explanation, I examined the pile of scrap carefully which was located at the back.

"Aren't... this all a ring? Moreover, all of them have the same design. I wonder why there is a large amount of the same ring being pile up at this place."

"I am pretty sure that the ring was created by the one who has hidden in this cave. Actually all of them are not the same at all, since it was created in the progress to create the 'perfect' ring."

That meant... all of the ring here were not the prefect product. The result of the numerous trial and error was this mountain of failures...

I wondered what type of ring this dwarf was yearning for even though he had experienced these much failures. In my own opinion, I believed that all the ring that was abandoned here were quite well made.

"? Huh... a gold... ring? This ring... where had I seen it before..."

I wondered what it was. I have a feeling that I had seen this ring before. Moreover, I feel like I had seen it recently...

"Hey, Sei. You still... can't remember anything at all?"

"Eh? Remember... you mean about the ring?"

"That's is one of the matter but it's not the only matter. I am referring to this hidden cave behind the waterfall and this smithy also."

Loki spread out both his hand to indicate this place. 'Everything'. That meant... that everything here was somehow related to me?

After Loki pointed that out, I looked at my surrounding again.

The dim cave. The sooty smithy. The mountain of ring. ...all of this... should be my first time seeing it. So, this shouldn't be a factor for me to remember anything—

"Argh! It hurts...!"

All of the sudden, there was a sharp pain running in the inner side of my brain as if I was pierced by an ice pick. As if I was on the point of pulling the string of the hidden memory.

Why...? Even though I had no knowledge about this place. Moreover, I didn't see such a smithy before.

But why... am I getting the feeling of 'nostalgic' from this place?

"Loki-sama, I am unable to keep up with this conversation at all.... Shouldn't Sei-san be a boar that was adopted in the forest of Ida weld in 'Asgard'? Thus, how is Sei-san related to this cave?"

"Ya. In fact, other than that, what else can you understand from this conversation? "

After replying to the suspicion raised by Brynhildr-sama in an impolite manner, Loki assembled words together as if he was able to see through me.

"You should have known this quite well. The name of the dwarf that was hiding here is – 'Andvari'. Hey Sei. You had heard of that name before right? It should be quite familiar to you right? This place."

Heard...? I didn't understand what exactly was Loki talking about?

I had no collection of such a remote cave at all. I also didn't know any dwarf that went by the name of Andvari at all. Why was Loki saying all of these as if it was quite obvious to me...

"Sei, it seems like you are playing dumb as always. It's fine. If you can't understand, then listen to what I'm going to say obediently. About the thing that I came across... after we had gone our separate way in 'Helheim'."

Then, Loki told his story in a calm manner.

The truth about me –Saehrimnir...

“For god’s sake... it’s here. The rumor grotto that Regin is hiding in.”

It was really was quite troublesome, how many day do you think it took for me to reach here.

Well, it was fine. With this, I’d finally be able to have a talk with him. The joy that he was feeling now somehow help him to overcome the fatigue after roaming around ‘Helheim’ for a few days.

“Hey, Regin!! I know you are here so come out now!”

I shouted out while knocking on the door loudly. But there was no response as expected. I see, please free feel to come in is it. Then, it’d be my pleasure to do that.

Bam

“I will be intruding, Regin!”

“What!? This... this is impossible! To think the strong door that I made to protect myself from any ambush was destroyed!? You, who the heck are you? A servant from Hel? Or are you an assassins that was hired by Sigurd...”

“Hey, you are Regin for sure right?”

“If... if that was the case, then do you plan to kill me? Who had been running away from the baptism for the deceased?”

“Please relax, you tiny father. I am not your enemy nor am I servant to anyone.”

“Is... is that true...?”

Inside the small house that was located in the corner of the grotto, the middle-aged dwarf squatted down. After I appealed that I was unarmed in front of the abnormal skinny Regin, he finally acknowledged that I was not his enemy.

Well it couldn’t be helped since I put too much force when I kicked the door.

“Actually I have a request for you. The magic sword ‘Rigel’ that was able to pierce a dragon heart... can I ask you to made that once again?”

“Oh, ‘Rigel’ is it... that is quite a nostalgic name. What do you plan to do with it by asking for it now?”

“It’s none of your concern at all. So, can I request you to do that?”

“Hm... I won’t make it for a customer with such attitude.”

“Huh? Who is the customer? Then, I hope you mind if I go and tell Hel or Sigurd about your hideout.”

“! You are not a customer? Then, who the heck are you?”

“Loki. “The god of Trickster, Loki.” I am pretty sure that this is a face and name that you will never forget. Isn’t that right, the third son of Hreidmar?”

While I was in the middle of stating that, Regin opened his eye wide and froze in place. This, this was the reaction I expected.

I’d also never forget about this since I was one of the three member of the God Tribe that demanded compensation from.

...No, I actually forget about this until recently.

“Oh, I had remember, you are the Aesir God from back then! ...I actually don’t want to involve with someone like you but... I am more scared if I made you into my enemy.”

“Oh, if that’s the case, then let’s settle it right away?”

“That’s right, our conversation will end here. Since I am unable to craft ‘Rigel’ for a second time.”

“...What did you say just now?”

What did he mean by that? We wouldn’t be able to have a decent talk if he was hanging his head. I grabbed on Regin head and lifted it up forcefully, then I asked for the reason for that. Regin answered me in a simplicity manner while shivering.

“I don’t have the required material. It’s not available anywhere in this world. Well it’s expected, since it’s a one of a kind magic sword.”

“...”

I see, I was able to acknowledge it if it was because of that. Since it was not that easy to create a magic sword class of weapon after all.

Tch... it seemed that I was the one who had completely wasted my time. Guess I had no choice but to depend on Sei for ‘Rigel’ as he was at the top (God realm)...

Nevertheless, it was not like I’d leave immediately as if I came here for that only. I actually had edtons of other matters that I want to talk to Regin about since I had managed to found him.

That was because this fellow Regin was actually an important person as he had involved with tons of people. Since he was the son of the blackmailer Hreidmar and at the same time, he was also the younger brother of Fafnir who was a Dwarf and the legendary magic dragon. He actually had one more older brother, the beaver Otr... wrong, it should be Otr who transform into a beaver. On top of that, he was also the foster father of the dragon killer, the person that the Parus Major mentioned on the assignation attempt, I was him and he was me.... huh, ahh!!! Damn it, I am confused now!

“Hey Regin! I want you to help me to sort out some information!”

“Huh, why so sudden? And what type of information?”

“Huh? Um... that’s right, I want you to tell me your relationship with the person that you were involved with. Let’s take this time to compare and adjust everything from the start. Else, it will pointless if I heard your explanation.”

I said that in a forcibly manner and Regin shrugged his shoulder as if he had no choice after reading between the line.

“Can I skip with how the family of Hreidmar encounter with you?”

“Ah, I’m sorry, I hope you can begin from there instead. Since it happened around three hundred year ago.”

“It seems that we had certainly become quite old if put it that way...”

Regin let out a sigh full with emotion but I was not sure whether he was giving his agreement or sympathy. Once you said that, I also get the feeling that I had

become quite old immediately.

After that, Regin sit down quietly on a chair as if he had determined to begin his talk.

“Okay. Then let’s start right away. Our encounter with your family— that’s right, it was when we went on a journey to ‘Niðavellir’.”

“...right. Then everything happened in just a moment. My family who lived our life merely as a blacksmith, got swallowed in a vortex called fate.”

What was with that since he was talking in an extreme manner? Did you expect me to play along with you?

Putting that aside, that time—the Chief God of the Aesir Tribe, Odin, the Chief God of Vanir Tribe, Hoenir and me travel from place to place for the purpose of ‘observing the world’ and we finally arrived at the Dwarf kingdom ‘Niðavellir’. It was not like we were on a sightseeing trip okay? It was for the sake to grasp the strength of all the different races. Along the way, we also bought their famous product.

Then, that day, the three of us happened to knock on the door that the Hreidmar family lived in as we had failed to find a place to stay.

In that house, Hreidmar was the main man and he had three son. The elder son, Fafnir, the second son, Otr and the youngest, Regin. All of them were skilled blacksmith since they helped us to repair our equipment over the night since it was wore out during the journey.

“To be honest, I was quite nervous that time. Since both the Chief of Aesir and Vanir tribe came to my house together. But... my father had the opposite feeling of mine from the beginning. Since he thought that we would be rewarded if we did our best to entertain you— so it was something like an opportunity for us to demand gratitude from you.”

I see, so that was the case. That explained why they tried their utmost best to look after us that night. Because of that we were fooled by their scheme but...

“But the next day, that accident occur. The second son, Otr... was killed by all of you.”

Regin said that in a manner as if he was blaming us and I began to fluster which was unlike me at all. That was without a doubt the truth but... I didn't want to acknowledge that at all. I was referring to the existence of that sin.

"...Hey, that's true if you look based on the fact but we did explain ourselves that time right? We just wanted to exterminate the trouble-maker beaver that was causing trouble to the resident of the same village only. We didn't even know that that beaver was Otr who transformed into a beaver with the rune of 'mannaz' at all."

"That's right. That's why I didn't hate you because of that. But it was different for my father. He tried to make use of the death of the mischievous second son to grasp the weakness of the God. When I saw my father dancing in joy after his own son was killed, I become scared from the bottom of my heart."

Of course... I understood how you felt. Since Hreidmar was quite a cunning person after all. Since he blackmailed us for the compensation with a smile instead of sadness or anger.

We were really in a bind since we didn't have enough gold to pay for the compensation that time. But we thought of this at that time. That there was a super wealthy Dwarf who lived nearby the village.

That was why Odin ordered me to go and borrowed gold from him. Of course, we do intend to clear the debt but... damn, we had forgotten to return the gold to him. There was no helping it, I'd go and return him the gold later. Since Dwarf had a long lifespan, so I bet he was still living if nothing had happened to him.

"So, after we paid the compensation, we were release without any punishment. Then, we plan to continue with our journey. But based on what I heard from the old man Witige – 'The Black Sword Saint', is it true that Fafnir run away with the gold? Is it true that... after we left, Fafnir started on a massacre for the treasure?"

"Ah... that is correct. I conspired with my brother to assassinate my father. But even after that, the one who obtained the gold is my brother only."

Regin looked downward and let out a parched smile as if he was laughing at himself. As expected... I was not sure the detailed circumstance for it but it

seemed like it was exactly as my thought.

“By the way, Loki, did you mentioned ‘The Black Sword Saint’ just now? Did the brat of Wayland inform you about me?”

“Huh? Ah, he did for a bit... huh, brat? Are you telling me that you were also an acquaintance with Wayland?”

“Hm, that fellow is actually my ex-disciple.”

“What? ...Ah, that’s right! The old man did told me that there is a period that his father (Wayland) became your disciple.”

“That’s right. I am Wayland master. Moreover, our relationship only last for a few year because my foster son, Sigurd always teased him... but to think that youngster managed to forge the sword that would be the key to control ‘Ragnarok’. I am quite proud of him even though we are not related.”

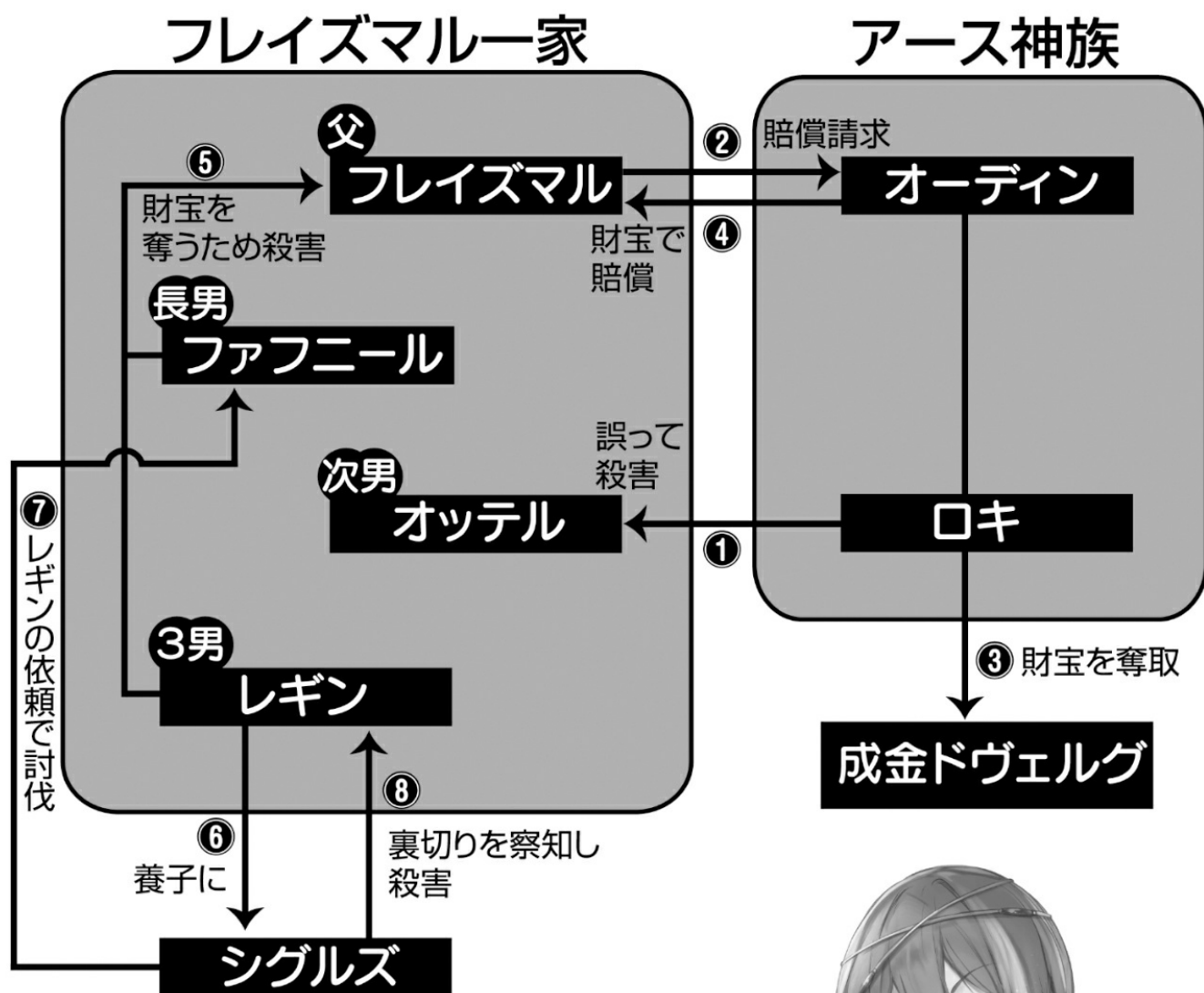
While looking afar, Regin muttered ‘He really did done something amazing.’

... I see. As expected Regin was not your average Joe after all. To think that the creator of the ‘Victory Sword’ that was owned by the God of War, Frey was actually his disciple...

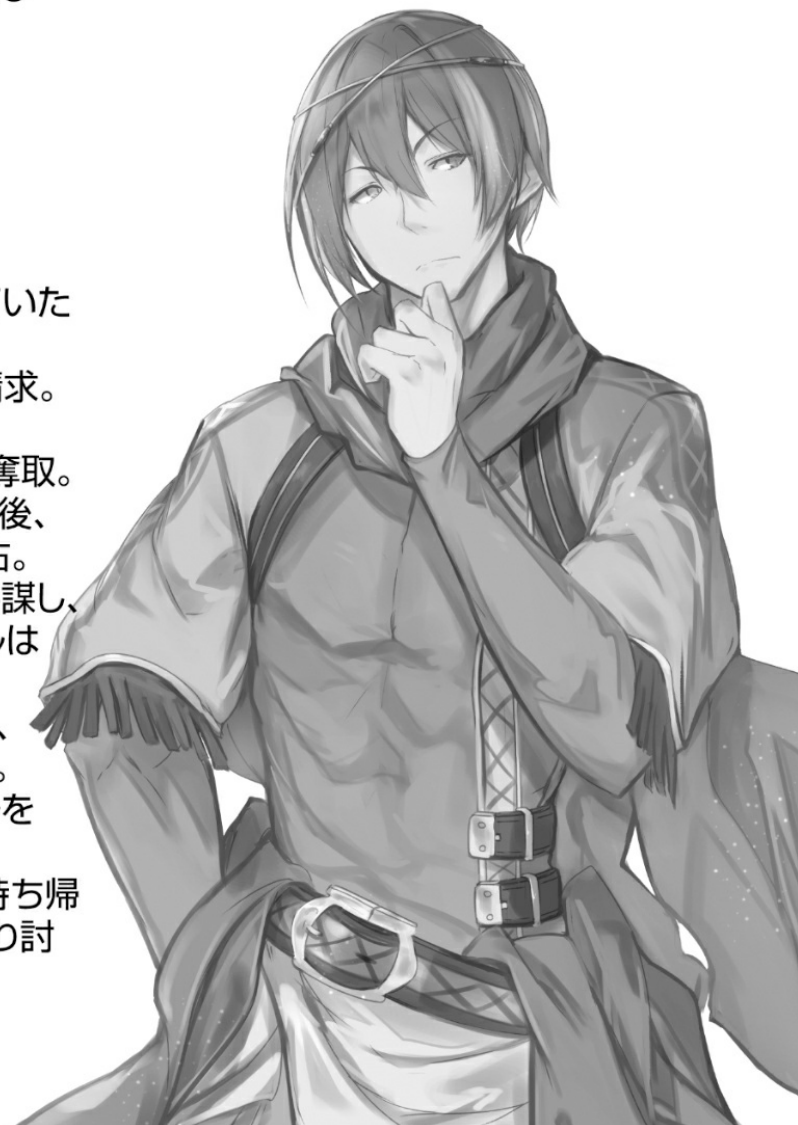
Well, I had no choice but to believe him it if became more complicated after this. I’d ask him more about Wayland next time.

“We had side tracked a bit but I will summarize the relationship between your family and us. Your father, Hreidmar make used of the death of the second son, Otr to threaten us. Because of that we ended up borrowing from the wealthy Dwarf. After that, the eldest son, Fafnir and the youngest son, Regin killed their father and snatched away that compensation gold.

“... Then, Fafnir transformed into the magic dragon and escaped with the gold. I raised Sigurd to become a dragon slayer but in the end I was beaten by my own game, so... this is the result of that.”



- ①ロキ、害獣退治の際、獣に変身していた次男オッテルを誤って殺害。
- ②フレイズマル、オーディンに賠償請求。
- ③オーディン、ロキに命じて、ある『成金ドヴェルグ』から財宝を奪取。
- ④オーディン、財宝で賠償する。その後、フレイズマルは豹変し、財宝を独占。
- ⑤長男ファフニール、3男レギンは共謀し、父を殺害。しかし直後ファフニールは竜と化し、財宝を持って逃亡。
- ⑥レギン、シグルズを養子に。のちに、彼にファフニール討伐を依頼する。
- ⑦シグルズ、竜と化したファフニールを討伐。財宝を手に入れる。
- ⑧シグルズ、ファフニールの財宝を持ち帰るが、レギンの裏切りに気づき、返り討ちにする。



Okay... this was great. I could grasp the correct detail after talking with him now. It was without a doubt that Regin was the Dwarf that started the legend of the dragon slayer.

Actually the thing that I wanted to know most was the hidden truth behind the legend of the dragon slayer. The thing I really wanted to hear was—the reason why Fafnir, who was a normal dwarf, was able to transform into a dragon like Sei.

Perhaps he... might have some clue to help identify Sei true identity.

“Hey, Regin. In order for me to have a better understanding, can I ask for a more detailed information? The thing I want to ask is on the event that happened after we left. What exactly happened to your family that time.... And how did the legend of the dragon slayer begin.”

“... Once I tell you that, will you go back obediently?”

“Yes. I swear by my name.”

Once I answered him, Regin showed a shady face immediately. But in the end, he let out a sigh and began with his story calmly—

“As you had known, my father Hreidmar was quite a cunning person. He might be more cunning than you, who was the God of trickster. That day, all the madness began the moment he touched that.”

“What is... that?”

“Ah, that’s right. If I am not mistake, my father was not the only one who became strange. Including me, my whole family suddenly became crazy. It was about the ring... that was the compensation for the death of the second son, Otr that you paid us.”

Ring...? What was that, the one that we paid them was the treasure that was borrowed from the nearby wealthy dwarf. I guessed it was normal if a ring was mix with the treasure but... exactly which part of that was bad?

“Well, listen first. The moment when my father touched that ring, he became enthralled to the gold as if he had gone crazy. Against my father who declared that

all the gold belonged to him, my older brother, Fafnir made a strong opposition... which surprised me. To think that my older brother who was an earnest worker... would devise a plan to assassinate my father.”

Regin continued while both of his hand tremble repeatedly. He was surprised that he agreed to cooperate with the plan without any doubt.

It was as if... someone had forcefully imprinted the killing intent in him—

“After we killed our father as plan, we divided the mountain of gold equal into two as promised. But... the moment Fafnir touched the ring that my father obsessed with, he also had a change of appearance. After he wore the ring, he became as greedy as my father and declared that the gold belonged to him.”

“Huh? Why do you put the blame on the ring? That might be his true intention from the beginning?”

“You won’t understand unless you were there that time. It is without a doubt that the trigger point was the ring. The proof for that.... was even myself have a change of personality. It happened the moment I tried to snatch the ring from my brother who went mad.”

Come on. In another word... those who touched the ring would definitely have a strong sense of greed is it?

“I was suddenly overflow with a strong murder intention and immediately attempted to kill Fafnir. Without a shred of doubt at all. Even though he was my blood-related brother. But at that moment... it happened at the same time when Fafnir hold the ring high up on the sky. He changed to a huge dragon with purple ominous scale.”

“! When he held the ring up.... And transformed into a dragon...?”

Huh, what was he talking about? Was that from the rune of ‘mannaz’? Instead of the rune of ‘mannaz’... Wasn’t it more like ‘the ring contains the power to transform into a dragon’...!

“After that, I lived for the purpose to obtain the ring that was taken by Fafnir. I will do whatever it take to kill him and snatch back the ring. Thus, I waited for that opportunity to come. Then... I came across with that opportunity easier than I thought.”

After saying that, Regin hit his hand as if he remembered something. Then, he brought back an old book after approaching the book shelf.

“What’s this book? ‘The Volsung Saga’...?”

“Don’t you know about this? I thought that you are aware of this since you are the step-brother of Odin. ‘Volsung’ was once the name of a great renowned human king. He had inherited the blood of a God as he is one of the descendant of Odin.”

“What!?”

Was that the truth...I had totally no idea of that at all. I was also not quite sure about my step-brother, what exactly was he planning from the shadow?

“The legend of the sacred sword of the living tree, Barnstokk is also quite famous among the human. The only human who was able to pull the sacred sword out of the tree is... the son of Volsung, Sigmund. After that, his son is the dragon slayer, Sigurd.”

I see... I had a feeling that I understood how a mere human was able to do such an act like killing a dragon now. In another word, Sigurd was the grandson of Odin.

“Let’s return back to our story. It really was a coincidence that I was entrusted with the child of the hero, Sigmund by his mother directly. Together with the aforementioned sacred sword. That time, even I felt thankful to the God. If I was able to raise this monster properly... he’d be able to become a dragon slayer for sure.”

Understood. From the perspective of Regin, that was the first time he met the great hero, Sigurd. The fate of a person was normally not set in stone by a God but well there were some mischievous gods.

“Sigurd who grew up as expected allow me to advance my plan. I thought that—everything would go as planned as if I was controlling everything. But... there was a grave miscalculation in my plan.”

“Miscalculation? Ah, you are referring that you were killed when your betrayal was exposed.”

“That’s right. I was not aware of that at all. To think that the ring... possessed a dreadful power of ‘harmony’ that was able to be understood by other being.”

...huh? Hold... hold it for a moment. The ring had a harmony power?

“Hey, are you saying that the ring enable Sigurd to be able to converse with bird? Based on Sigurd, he mentioned that it was because he licked the fats that came from the heart of a dragon...”

“Huh? Why did he purposely made such a poor explanation? The liquid of a dragon don’t have such power at all. The reason why he is able to converse with bird is because the moment when he defeated the dragon, he— wore the ring which is one of the treasure.”

“!!”

What... what exactly was he saying?

The power to transform the owner into a dragon and... the dreadful harmony power that was contained in that magic ring.

That power... wasn’t it the same as a power that I knew.

“Hey, Regin. Who... created that ring?”

“Who? To think that you want to hear that from me, Loki. Even after all that... you dare to ask me that!! Aren’t you the one who obtained that!! From the wealthy Dwarf that was hidden on a cave behind the waterfall—‘Andvari’!!”

That moment—I was faced by a huge hostility.

It reminded me now of the same hatred that I felt in the past.

That right... that did happen.

The one who started the curse... was me...

Loki paused for a while after his long conversation.

Everyone remained silence at the same time. Loki and I... and even Brynhildr-sama. We just remained silence and looked down toward one of the fallen ring on the ground.

“Um... what happened... next? What do you intend to tell us? Loki-sama. After hearing all that suddenly, I am still unable to conclude anything...”

Brynhildr-sama asked on behalf of me who remained silence and showed a parched smile. Then, Loki lifted up his face slowly and begin his explanation without showing any expression.

“The cave behind the waterfall was once the home of the wealthy Dwarf, Andvari. The reason why he possessed so much gold... was because he possess a certain magic ring that was created by himself.”

“A ring that will bring wealth is it...? What exactly is the magic that the ring possessed?”

“It’s a magic that once a day—during the sunset, it was able to bring back the gold that was used for that day.”

“... huh?”

The thing that Loki told us just now was something that is quite familiar to me. After realizing the meaning behind it, Brynhildr-sama finally remained silent.

“As order by my brother, I went and stole the ring from Andvari. As we believed that it would be sufficient to compensate Hreidmar. But at that time... he became mad and place a certain curse on the ring. That curse will –‘murder its owner’.

“Murder it owner...?”

Since the name seemed so sinister, I repeated it like a parrot. After Loki gave me a nod, he revealed the mystery about that.

“Before anyone can make use of the power of the ring to become rich, a curse was placed to grant misfortune to its owner. At that time, I make light of it since I thought it was just a normal cursing but... to think that it was the real deal.”

While saying that, Loki picked up one of the ring and fiddle it with his finger. Then he continue while looking through the ring as if he could see a scenery.

“There is a lot of form for the misfortune. There is time where it mesmerize a certain Dwarf family and started a killing fest by imprinting killing intent into

them... there is also the scheme of a certain royal family which cause the death of the great hero... there is also the time where it immediate annihilate the glory royal family. From one hand to another, from one darkness to another darkness. The footprint that scattered all around is the misfortune that is known as death.”

“Scatter... misfortune... death.”

After listening to Loki, my heartbeat become louder and louder.

—‘I’ve gotten bored of watching the misfortune in the world.’—Previously, there is a time where I wonder why those word appear in my mind all of a sudden.

Is this... the answer on my past?

“Well, it’s almost time for us to face our answer, Sei. Are you prepared?”

“... I am... not prepared.”

I understood well that this was something pathetic. But this was my honest answer.

“Loki...Loki-sama, about Sei-san’s true identity... do we really need to let him know it no matter what?”

Brynhildr helped me out since she was unable to just ignore this while I was not fully prepared yet. As expected, Brynhildr-sama was quite kind... I really had no idea how many time had I fallen for her up until now.

But... Loki ignored it.

“What I am going to say from now onward might seem harsh to Sei. But... unfortunately this problem will not involve him only. Hey Sei, if you really cared about Brynhildr-sama, then show us your guts now.”

“I”

Since... he told me that, I no longer had anytime to hesitate anymore. I answered Loki after I shook off the unexpected huge feeling of uneasiness.

“I understand... please tell me.”

“Oh, that’s great.”

I'd no longer run away. No matter... how harsh the truth was.

"First is your dragon transformation. Do you understand—how you were able to transform into a dragon from the start?"

"I believe... that the me before I lost my memory had encounter a dragon..."

"It's a pity but that's not the truth. The reason why you were able to transform into a dragon is due to the power that exist in 'that ring' since it was made that way. That explains why could a normal Dwarf like Fafnir be able to transform into a dragon."

'That ring' that was mentioned by Loki. Yes— this was just an assumption.

That was because it did not even serve as a discussion for my true identity. If that was the answer, then there was no point for Loki to tell me to 'face the answer'.

"Next, for some reason, you are quite proficient with the rune of 'mannaz' right? Have you wonder why— you were able to go against the principle of mannaz and transformed into Fenrir who is a member of the God and even Gullinkambi who possessed the nickname of 'Gold Rooster'?"

"Isn't that because I just so happen to be good at using the rune of 'mannaz' only?"

"Just so happen? That's wrong. That is because 'that ring' contains a hidden ability which emphasize the 'harmony' that governs the rune of mannaz. The reason why Sigurd was able to converse with the bird is not because he licked the fats of the dragon heart but it was because the harmony between him with the other race got amplified through the median of the ring."

That meant... instead of a coincidence, it was something inevitable...

"Then I will move on further. Do you know the reason why you were able to revive once the sunset?"

"... That is due to the ability of 'Gullveig' right?"

"That's right. Then, do you know why you possess that ability?"

"That...I don't know at all."

“Then, let me tell you. ‘That ring’ possess the ability to revive the treasure that was consumed during sunset. Even though you are a boar, you possess self-awareness thus, you treated yourself as a treasure without even realizing about it. If my assumption is correct, you were able to revive yourself because dying is the same as the treasure being consumed.”

“Then... is it due to the influence of that ring which grants those who eat me, the same ability to revive as me..?”

“That’s right, you are correct. So, let’s continue on with this momentum.”

Loki answered me with a satisfying look and told me this in an indirect manner. ‘Don’t act like you don’t know. I know it’s hard but you had to accept it.’

But... I was really scared.

I was really interested in my true identity previously. My identity before I was adopted by my current parent. But... at some point I began losing interest in that. I thought that I was able to understand the reason that caused it...

“It seems like you had not remember about it but during the rebellion of the Einherjars, it was you who killed the mastermind, Beruze. Are you sure that you are unsure on the method you use to kill him?”

I could only shake my head horizontally toward that question. It was not a lie that I had no memory of it.

“Beruze died because he declared that you were his possession. The curse activated immediately in that moment. He died in a hideous manner. The current you who have a mind now is able to activate the curse on purpose and the owner will be assaulted by all sort of misfortune that can be found in this world.”

“...I... see. It seems that Beruze-san might have done something bad...”

... I wondered why. I understood it vaguely but it seemed that only terrible thing happened. Thus, I was still unable to believe this story was related to my true identity.

If this was the truth, then it would be better for this to remain in the dark. If it

was possible, I wished he could stop this conversation.

I guessed I was really pampered... since I was thinking in that manner.

“Lastly—it’s about how you manage to deepen your relationship and trust with everyone at a fast pace. That is not because of your virtue at all. This is... something that was planned from the beginning.”

“That’s not it! Loki, I am sure that it’s wrong! I actually li... think that Sei-san is amazing since I know am aware how hardworking Sei-san is! I don’t care whether it is due to his true identity or the curse at all! I am pretty sure that the others also have the same thought as me!”

Brynhildr-sama finally voiced her opinion against Loki as if she was unable to endure it anymore. But Loki continued on as though he was aware of that.

“I want my meat to be delicious, I want to smell nice and on top of that I want to be cute... he desire and envy more than anyone else, and his extraordinary power are all a lump of convenient feature for him. All of that is for the sake of killing after triggering their greed... which is just a portion of the curse.”

The moment Brynhildr-sama heard that, tear began rolling down her cheeks.

It pained me to see how kind Brynhildr-sama was, since she was feeling sad for the sake of other. The tear of hers caused my heart to beat faster.

“...Then... in other word... what am I?”

My eye hurt. My throat hurt. And it seemed like chest was being torn apart.

He answered me while trembling as if he was trying to hold back himself from shouting it out.

“... The brown boar, Saehrimnir. Your true identity is... the magic ring that was created by the Dwarf blacksmith, Andvari who used to live here. No... you are the blood-stained curse ring that no one dare to touch now—“

I was pretty sure that the answer given was correct.

Loki was pretty sure of his judgement since it was based on the various information that he had encountered up until now.

“—... you are ‘Andvaranaut’.”

That was the truth on my past.

Furthermore... that was also my true name.

Just like this, my past was exposed.

I always thought that I needed to know it if it was possible. For that sake, there was a short period where I surrounded myself with the ancient manuscript. I was pretty sure there are time where I dream... about my real parent.

—despite all that.

“...I am... a ring? A ring that was curse... to kill its owner...?”

The revealed truth was quite unpleasant. The reality was quite merciless.

No... I was fine even if I was a ring. For some reason the current me was a boar but I was still quite proficient with the rune of mannaz. I seemed that I was lacking of a person background from the very beginning.

But... it was a different story if we are talking about the curse.

If I were to admit that, I'd go back to the time when I was Andvaranaut and scattered the misfortune in the form of death.

“Haha... to think that.... I also thought that I am a bit weird. Since I was quite skilled at evading inconvenient matter.”

Ah, that right. I was pretty sure that I was aware of this somewhere in my heart. That my true identity was Andvaranaut.

In the midst of this long time, I was sure that I had cursed and killed a large amount of people. I was the curse ring that exposed and increased the ugly side of the world and the cause of death, destruction and despair. At the end of that blood stained journey—I simply evaded all of those matter.

“Sei-san... I am not sure how would I be able to comfort you. But please... don't feel that disappointed.”

Brynhildr-sama who was behind of me, said those kind words toward me.

“The sins that was committed when Sei-san was a ring is just a matter in the past now. There is no need for the current Sei-san to bear the burden for that.”

“Is... that so...”

I would like to do that if I was able to do away with my past. Since I would like to do that also. But... can I really be forgiven? Is it okay for me to forget about the crime that I committed when I was Andvaranaut?

“It’s just like what Brynhildr said just no, Sei. I didn’t expose your past in order to torment you at all. I did it so that are able to understand your past well. Didn’t I always say this? That you need to comprehend the details of your power. If you are able to do that, then you won’t make a mistake when the time come.”

I see... Loki did all that for the sake of that.

No matter how dangerous my power was, the one that was having control over it was me. Moreover, this power would be able to affect my surrounding depending on the situation. This was not a power that should be handled without understanding it.

“But... will I be able to do it? To have control over my curse.”

As long as I was able to do that... I’d be able to remain who I was now.

“It’s not about whether you are able to do it or not, you must do it.”

“I am pretty sure you are able to do it since you are Sei-san after all! Furthermore, isn’t it true that nothing had happened up until now?”

That... that right. Both of them are correct. Since I had done it up until now, I was pretty sure that I was able to do it from now onward. Together with everyone, no matter what—

“It’s impossible... for you.”

...eh? What was... that voice just now?

“It’s impossible for you. That is because you are... still under the curse.”

The voice came out the moment when I had determined to— accept the truth and prepare to face it positively.

That was a resentment that seep out from the darkness in the world. That was a resentment that crawl up from the bottom of hell.

That black sediment that negate all life... was negating my determination with those cursed word.

“!? ...Who are you!!”

Loki shout echoed inside the cave that became dim for a moment. Then the thing that suddenly appeared in front of us is the ruined ring that was pile up in the cave.

Are you telling me... that these ring were speaking to us...?

“! Stay back!”

In the same moment when Loki shouted toward us after sensing something, the black darkness ooze out from the mountain of rings. That darkness that appeared swallowed all of the ring without leaving any behind and it form changed into a lump of the ominous miasma.

“Isn’t this... the same miasma as that time!?”

“What... what do you mean by that, Sei?”

“When Loki was still in ‘Helheim’, I went to ‘Midgard’ together with the Valkyrie! And this is the same miasma that I saw that time...! That’s right, the ring!”

I remembered it! No wonder... this pile of rings looked so familiar, still it was the same ring from that time! It was the same as ‘Gnitaheid’ and the ruin of the Gjúki Family... that ring could be found in those place where the miasma appear.

I finally got it now. The true identity of that miasma was the ring!

“Hold... hold it for a moment. If the miasma that time was cause by this ring... then how did the ring scatter throughout the world?”

I thought for a while after listening to the Brynhildr-sama question but... there was only two answers for that. ‘Someone took the ring out of here.’ Or perhaps...

“I’m so glad that you remember, Sei. I wonder is there a reason for you to purposely come here to meet us.”

The outline of the miasma flicker like a fire and turn to solid immediately. At the same time, the eerie voice that seemed to be a mixture of multiple voice combined into a voice of a young man.

The condense miasma form the shape of a single person and... it change into a surprising appearance.

“That... it’s another... Sei-san!?”

Brynhildr-sama became astonished and shouted out while covering her mouth.

I also felt the same way. That was because... the one that was standing there... was without a doubt myself. It was my human form after I activated the rune of mannaz.

“Who... who are you...?”

I immediately asked the other me who appear out of a sudden. Then, he glared at me and answered with an emotionless expression.

“I am you, Saehrimnir.”

“What... what did you just said...”

I became speechless after I voiced out my immediate denial.

The fallen ring that could be found in the cave of a waterfall become him. Moreover, I was originally a ring also. If that ring was an imitation of me then that meant that he was me...?

“Don’t be fool, Sei. He is completely different from you. Didn’t I said this, the rings here are failure product since it different from you.”

While saying that, Loki took out a mistletoe branch from his pocket and prepare himself for battle.

“I also had the same thought. There is no way that he is the same as Sei-san since he is the culprit of that sinister miasma!”

Beside of him, Brynhildr-sama stand up and unsheathe her beloved sword, then she took her position by standing in front of me.

“...it’s true that I was a failure product. I can’t say that I am completely the

same as Saehrimnir at all. Despite that, I am still you. Andvari said that I am a Falsch. In another word... doesn't that mean I am you but my name is Falsch instead?"

Falsch— the fake Saehrimnir, was what he called himself.

After the Chief God, Odin snatched away the ring, Andvari tried to recreate the same ring again. As a result of that, the spirit of the failure product... was born.

"I see. Does that mean the 'thing' that I saw in 'Helheim' is something else... despite that I can't be at ease at all. Hey, Falsch is it? Why do you appear now? If you said that you appear because I exposed Sei identity, then I will be hurt."

"...Sorry, Loki. I don't have any free will since I am Falsch. The one who I had business with is— that 'perfect product' only."

After saying that, Falsch walked slowly toward me. He didn't pay any attention to the two who entered a battle stance to protect me. He walked toward me... casually.

His right hand was holding the black lump full of killing intent.

"Tch... it looks like you are looking down on us, do you intend to die!"

Loki threw the mistletoe branch as Falsch approach us with a distinct hostility intent. The moment the branch was threw, it changed into the thorny magic sword and chopped off Falsch right hand at the elbow.

"Ah... it's broken. That was mean, Loki."

Falsch stopped his movement and muttered that in an insignificant manner. Was that it...? Was that the only thing he could say after having his hand chopped off...?

I watched this madness quietly as that reaction that didn't show any pain or fear. But... this might be a normal reaction to him. That was because his fallen right hand recovered immediately the moment he swung his hand.

"Okay, it's back to normal now. Well, it was broken at the start anyway, I am referring to myself."

After he said that, Falsch began walking once again. Just when I thought the

right hand this was covered with miasma, was about to catch me, the next person who stopped him was Brynhildr-sama.

“Please... please stop your movement now! Else... I will not show you any mercy despite your appearance!”

Her behavior and words seemed refined from the appearance but based on the tremble sword tip, it showed that she was confused in the inside.

“...oh. In fact, I would like to see it. Please show it to me.”

Falsch purposely faced the sword with his left chest. Brynhildr-sama was surprised and started to tremble.

! This was bad—she was unable to kill Falsch! It seemed that Brynhildr-sama was really a kind person since I had always watch her from the side.

It was not just based on my sight alone. Previously Brynhildr-sama personally told me about this.

In the past, in order to fulfill the wish of Sigurd’s mother who was a friend to Brynhildr-sama, she went against the order of Odin-sama.

Even though she was doing fine with her Valkyrie missions now, her kindness was the only thing that would never change. Moreover, her opponent this time was none other than me. It completely different from being a stranger. Since she said that I was her... ‘friend’!

Brynhildr-sama understood well that was not me but it was hard to lie to her own feeling. I was pretty sure that it’d left a scar in her heart if she were to kill Falsch who was exactly like me.

“Come on... it’s here. What will you do now? Brynhildr-sama.”

“...n...o...wait”

At the moment—Falsch purposely took a step forward to let the sword plunge his left chest. The large amount of blood that splattered out from the wound and Brynhildr-sama body was dyed red.

“Nooo!! It’s a lie... I... Sei-san... with this hand!”

“Calm yourself down, Brynhildr-sama! That is not me, it Falsch! Look, aren’t I

standing here right now!”

After letting go of the sword, Brynhildr-sama fell to her knee. In order to make her feel at ease, I immediately changed into my human form and hug her.

“Sei... san... I’m sorry... I...”

Her face become pale from the blood and those teary eyes looked like they were dead. The hand that grabbed back at me was surprisingly cold and her sadness caused her to tremble gradually.

On the other hand, Falsch took out the sword that was pierce through his heart as if it was normal and throw it in front of her. As if he was doing it on purpose to torment her by using her the conscious of her guilt.

“That was quite bad of you... on top of being a fake, you possess the ability to revive?”

“That’s wrong, Loki. I don’t have such ability at all. You saw my original identity before I become this right? I am the combination of the thousands ring. As long as I am here, my life and hatred is endless. That’s why, I choose to appear now.”

While answering, Falsch walked passed Loki who was grinding his teeth and stood next to me.

“So, Sei. Let us have a talk while ignoring all these outsider. Wait, words are not necessary at all. The thing that I desire from you is—”

In that moment, a fire was lit in the cloudy eyes of Falsch.

Only the outline of the iris was giving off a glow. It was as if a cursed ring that appeared from the darkness and pierced through me under the name known as madness.

“—a killing fest.”

The moment when I realized it— the world had already turned into reddish-black.

It was only Falsch and me who were inside this world which was swallowed by the miasma. There was no exit but... oddly I was not scared at all.

Loki and Brynhildr-sama would not get involved any further if we were here. That was just my assumption only.

“Falsch. Do you hate me? What did I did to you?”

“Actually, nothing. So be at ease since you haven’t done anything. But as long as you are alive, just for that reason only... cause me to hate you so much that I want to kill you.”

“That doesn’t answer anything! There is no point for me to have a killing fest with you at all!”

“I’m sure you can do it. Since the reason is quite simple... you have to kill in order to avoid being killed!”

The sharp hand blade that was covered with the miasma was approaching my throat as if he was letting me experience his serious intention to kill. On the contrary, my killing intent that was forcefully drawn out my instinct of not dying actually helped me live longer.

“Hee, as expected of the original. To think you were able to avoid my attack as long as you get cornered.”

“Hold... hold it! You are the only one who desires this killing fest only! I actually wanted to have a talk with you! If you were made after me, then that means you were made after me, in another word, you are my little brother right!? I don’t intent to fight my little brother at all!”

I tried to convince him desperately while avoiding those continuously hand blade at the last minute. But Falsch didn’t stop his assault. In fact, the more I tried to convince, his assault get faster and faster as he was hunting for me.

“How many time do I have to say it till you understand! I am not your little brother, I am just a fake! I am just an incomplete you! It’s just one... it’s just one difference that caused me to become a fake! I am actually much better than you!!”

Falsch screamed that out while brandishing all his strength into his right hand. It was alright, since I was able to avoid all the attack up until now. I jumped a step backward at the last minute to avoid it.

“Argh!?”

In the next moment, I was blown backward after I got hit by a powerful shockwave.

I fell flat down after rolling a few time on the reddish black ground. How did it happen? Why didn't I manage to avoid it? Did I misjudge the timing? When I was trying to figure that out with my muddiness consciousness—the thing that I saw in my blurry vision was Falsch appearance that had changed.

“Ahem... only his right hand... undergone the dragon transformation...?”

The ability that Falsch revealed, after he commented that he was better than me, was something unknown to me. It was the ability of ‘position transformation’ since he was able to transform a part of his body to something else.

“Hahaha! How was that, I bet you aren't able to do something like this right? But I am able to do it. Of course, it's normal that the one that was made latter are superior! The only thing that I am lacking is ‘Gullveig’ only. That is why... I will snatch that from you now!!”

After Falsch grab my head since I was unable to move, he pour the miasma from his dragon form right hand into me.

“This... is bad...!”

The feeling of it consuming from the inside. The feeling of it taking away my consciousness. I was being assaulted by the violence that was destroying my mind from the inside.

“I will become Saehrimnir! I will become the real deal! You belong to me now! This time... it's your time to be the fake!!”

The darkness that invaded the inside of my mind removed my ego from me. I couldn't sense anything now. My thought had come to an end. Is this... the end for me?

[Let me grant you.]

...That was wrong. This was not the end yet. That was because... Falsch couldn't become me.

[Let me grant you. The foolish fake—]

That was because my inside had... already completely filled with the darkness.

“Argh!? What is this!? My arm... is melting!!”

When my vision return to normal after a momentarily darkness—he screamed out in front of me. What I saw was Falsch who was staggering. The right hand that he was holding was no longer a dragon nor a human anymore. Since it became stained by the black sediment.

“I shouldn’t be feeling any pain... nor any fear! Since I don’t have those function at all! Saehrimnir, what the heck did you do to me!”

“That was just my kindness. Didn’t you said you wanted to become me? Accept it since that is a part of me.”

The black sediment that swallowed everything. The mud that cursed one to death. That was me... Andvaranaut.

I thought he would understand it since he declared that he was me in an indirect manner.

“I see... that means you finally have interest in this killing fest! Original!”

“...‘killing fest’? What the heck are you saying?”

After I took a step forward, the world change starting from the spot that I stepped. The reddish black world turn black. It was pure black which would not be dyed by any other color.

“Do you serious think that I will become your opponent, fake? Since this is just purely ‘killing’ only.”

A step after another, the world was slowly being dyed by me. When this swallowed world had split into two, I stood in front of Falsch who faced become stiff from the fear.

“Admit it... that I am the superior one! I am just lacking of ‘Gullveig’ only. Other than that, I am much superior than you!”

“Then let have a competition then. Let have a benchmark test. Try you best and show me your potential.”

Okay, let's see what the conceited fake can do.

The method for this battle—was determined from the moment we met each other.

“I—Saehrimnir belong to the Falsch Saehrimnir.”

“I—Falsch Saehrimnir belong to Saehrimnir.”

The confrontation between the two Saehrimnir. The two Andvaranaut.

After the both of them made that declaration, the curse to kill its owner within them activated.

The black sediment that come out from the depth of their body. It crawled up to the right hand in a helix manner and gather itself in front of the index finger.

The black sediment get in position in my right hand and Falsch left hand. The moment when the two extend our curse tip to touch each other forehead... they said this at the same time.



""DIE!""

There is no need to offer any flower. Since the destination that the fake, who was broken from the start, was going to a place that exceeded death—which was ‘nothing’.

The battle had already concluded— when I regained back my conscious.

The both of us were dealt with the deathly curse. As a result of the same curse overlapping each other, it ended—as my victory.

My complete curse overwhelm Falsch fake curse which caused him to lose his life.

“Am I going to... die... and disappear?”

After getting destroy by the curse of death, Falsch body became frail immediately and fell backward. In the end, he was unable to maintain his transformation and return back to a ring before slowly disintegrate into sand.

“I’m sorry... Falsch. What have I done...”

The moment the duel was decided, I was able to accept myself when I became Andvaranaut. Or did I lose my consciousness again like last time, then that meant that this was the second time...

At least I was able to feel one great change in me. That I was able to acknowledge my own ability. Somehow, it seemed I was able to remember most of my memory when I was Andvaranaut.

“Forgive me, Sei. That is how you request for forgiveness. But I will never forgive you.”

“Haha... it seemed that I got hated. In the end, it seem that your wish was fulfilled.”

“... I hated you from the start but... I am unable to hate you on this which is you had beaten me with your ability. Since I had aware that the real deed is much more superior, I am able to accept myself as Falsch now.”

The bottom half of Falsch was slowly disappearing as he gave out a sad smile.

At the same time as that, the outline of this world that was created by Falsch started to distort. And the world is slowly returning back to its original color. In the midst of that, Falsch extend his leftover left hand toward me.

“Sei, my hand.”

“?”

After he said that, I extended my hand naturally. Then, Falsch became astonished halfway through his smile.

“Shouldn’t you be more alert, since we did battle each other just now?”

“Ah, that’s right, I’m sorry.”

“I don’t mind but.... For god’s sake, you are too friendly. All of us will be going now.”

Falsch grabbed my hand while he shrugged his shoulder. He put a small amount of strength into his hand and told me this.

“Sei, you should had recovered your memory when you were Andvaranaut during the battle with me.”

“! How did you...”

“Our meeting is not by fate since it was planned. It was all planned by our father... Andvari.”

What.... Then, were you telling me Andvari was the one that caused us to have this killing fest?

“In the end, he used me as a failure product. That’s why, I wanted to tell you this as revenge. The thing... that I want to tell you is Andvari scheme.”

The moment Falsch told me that, I was overflowed with light that came from his hand. As if we were resonating with each other, I was filled with the light which was his memories. And his only proof of living.

I was able to understand everything as he had passed all his memory to me. The reason why Falsch appeared in front of me. And also the reason why we fought each other.

Furthermore— it also contained the reason on why I became a boar and was

sent to 'Asgard'.

"This is... how could this be!? Is... all of this the answer to all my question!?"

I didn't believe this! If the information that I received is the truth... then I shouldn't be near to Odin-sama at all!

"Calm down, Sei. You had recovered all your memory right? As long as you don't get too close to others, your curse will do no harm at all. You won't hurt others as long as you are alone."

"If that is the case, then I will never be..."

"You should give up on that. Listen carefully, I did told you that it would be better if you keep quiet about this right? Unless, you want the important person of you to fight against each other."

What was left in this collapsing world was Falsch whom existence was getting weaker. Falsch continued before his existence was completely gone.

"But... there is no need for you to be despair at all. I'm sure that you have one since I also had one."

"Have one... what is that? Wait... wait for a moment! At least tell me what you mean by that!"

I could no longer see Falsch. What was left now was his faint presence in which I asked him desperately.

[—Salvation—]

Was that the voice that I heard or was it just my imagination?

The small voice that couldn't be heard by anymore, secretly appeared in my heart.

[I started at the worst point but... unexpectedly I felt like I was rescued for my demise. Even though it was a battle, you did become my owner. The owner of me who no one even dare to bother with up until now. This is the salvation that you gave me.]

Normally you wouldn't said that you were saved.... Since this world was actually filled with kindness that you were not aware of...

[Never forget about this, Sei. I am Falsch and Saehrimnir also. Since I am the same as you... so I'm... sure...]

In the end, he stopped halfway and his presence was gone as well. The another me... Falsch had completely disappear from this world.

He hated me and I also didn't like to meet with people that I dislike. But... it was without a doubt that he is also me. Poor Saehrimnir, to think you had fallen to the dark side all because of a small mistake.

Just when I realized about that again, tears... flowed down my cheek.

Without waiting for a long time, the created world had completely disappeared.

The voices that belonged to two person immediately called out to me from my back when I was absentminded.

"Sei, so you are fine! Come one, where did you went since you disappear all of a sudden!"

"Sei-san! Ah, that's great since you're fine! I was worry since you disappear suddenly!"

The moment after I returned, I was greeted by Loki and Brynhildr-sama who had recovered from her depression. That was great... since I was not sure what I should do if she remained in that state.

I immediately wiped off my tear and turned toward them, then I replied them after I gave a bow.

"I'm sorry Loki. I would like to apologize for making you worry about me, Brynhildr-sama. I just went to settle the score with Falsch only."

"Settle... settle the score... since you were able to return safety, does that mean that you had defeated Falsch?"

"Ya, kind of. It was a close call..."

The moment they heard my answer, both of them gave out a sigh of relief. They also gave me their best blessing for my victory at the same time.

"So? What happened to that fellow in the end?"

“Okay... let’s me explain that. Since I had inherit everything about him from himself.”

In the end, he entrusted me with this memory after I was have a bit reconciliation with him. After I sorted out my feeling, I told both of them everything I knew.

“Falsch is actually a superior ring than me. But Andvari treated him as a fake since he was not able to activate ‘Gullveig’. He... actually was quite unsatisfied ever since then. That’s why he had wished for the day where he will be able to fight me.”

Then... the moment when his wish was granted was today.

“He comes out because I had exposed your identity... that is not the reason right?”

“Yes, that’s wrong. The reason why he appear is because this is a place where he had the most advantage. Despite that, I am sure that he will still appear in front of me someday even if we didn’t came to this cave. Moreover, our first meeting was at ‘Gnitaheid’.”

That was because I saw a shadow that was similar to me that time. I thought I was just hallucinating but it seemed that Falsch had actually went there. After that, he changed to his miasma form and attack me was just a greeting to me only.

“Andvari had prohibited Falsch to meet with me. But... when Andvari thought that I had reached the most convenient position, that prohibition was lifted.”

“The most convenient position... is? What does that mean...?”

“It’s Odin-sama throat, Brynhildr-sama. Because I had gain sufficient trust from the God and proven my worth as the ‘Valhalla diner’. After Falsch was aware with that, he moved on to the second phase of his plan. That is the fight between me and Falsch.”

“Hm...? I don’t understand that. What the point of having you and Falsch to fight each other?”

That was an expected question. But it would be a bit difficult to answer that

question.

It might be better for me to explain everything step by step even though it a bit bothersome.

“Actually... I have no memory when I was made into a boar in the first place. If I have no memory about my past then I won't know about my task also. If I had to explain why Andvari did that, it would be none other than ‘You must fool your friend before you can fool your enemy.’.”

That was because Andvari was actually quite a careful Dwarf. I thought that it was a good idea to remove all my memory so no one can realize about his plan. That was because I wouldn't be able to act normally in ‘Valhalla’ if I was aware of my task.

“Um... Sei-san, even though you had said that in a simple manner but that is actually ‘creation of life’ right? If that is the case, then it is necessary to get approval from the gods. But we were not even aware of your existence until Loki introduce us to you...”

“Hey, Brynhildr, you will only made foe if you keep on with your serious mode. Do you think that Andvari who hates gods so much until he wanted to kill them will go and get approval from the god obediently?”

Yup... it was a pity but it was exactly as what Loki said. The rule of this world was not perfect. No matter what bad deed it was, there would always be a loophole for it.

“Wanted to kill because of hatred.... Huh, wait a moment. If I am not mistaken, Sei-san was adopted by your current parent together with magic pot, Eldhrimnir right? That's mean the creator of Eldhrimnir is Andvari.”

“Yes, that's right.”

“...After he made Sei-san who is a ring to the boar that was able to revive for a numerous time, he send you together with Eldhrimnir to ‘Asgard’ which is part of his plan— If Andvari had predicted beforehand that ‘there will be a future where the Einherjars food supply will be insufficient’ then... he is sure that you will attract Odin-sama attraction. In other word, Andvari objective is... to let Odin-sama be the owner of Sei-san...!?”

While mumbling, Brynhildr-sama managed to figure out the answer herself which caused her to start trembling in fear.

It was a pity but that was the task that was given to me. The idea of sending me as a boar (food stock) to get close to him was the most natural method for that moment.

From the beginning, my existence was... to infiltrate 'Asgard' and cursed Odin-sama to death as an indestructible God Slayer weapon.

"It went exactly as Andvari scheme since I was owned by Odin-sama as a food stock. I am unable to say it out loud but I believe these serve as proof that I was owned by him since he took back his dismissal of me and the selfish behaviour of him that prohibit me from letting other race to taste me. But it seems that is not enough to activate the curse. That why, Falsch was necessary."

Loki shrugged his shoulders as we went back to our main topic. Seriously... I felt tired from all these talking too.

But, just a little more. Then I'd be able to convey everything to them.

"The curse won't activate if I continue on without any awareness of the curse. That is where Falsch came in to serve as the switch to activate the curse."

"Switch...?"

"Yup. I as Andvaranaut have a powerful 'harmony' ability. It was the same for Falsch too. After I resonate with Falsch who was aware of the curse, it cause my memory as Andvaranaut to return. But... that is a memory that I shouldn't remember at all."

While saying that, I put some strength into my right hand. Then, it was covered by the ominous black sediment.

"Is that... Sei-san... curse...?"

Brynhildr-sama swallowed her breath and knitted her eyebrow. Well, it couldn't be helped if she was scared of it. Since any person that 'owned' me based on my thought touched this, then the person life would immediately be taken away.

"Andvari knew it from the start that Falsch is not a match for me after my

curse was activated. That is the reason why he allowed Falsch to meet me. And I managed to learn about my curse... which is exactly as what he planned. Since this switch was turn on, I won't be able to return back to usual now."

I was different from the time that I was ignorance of this from a while ago. If I let my guard down for just a moment, the curse would burst out which would kill a person easily.

That was why...

"Brynhildr-sama... Loki. I ... won't be returning to 'Valhalla' anymore."

"What!?"

"Are you serious, Sei-san...!"

Don't make that face, Loki. It was the same for you, Brynhildr-sama. Since this was something inevitable.

Even if I was able to control my curse, the curse from the ring would still instill killing intent and greed to those around me. The first victim was Hreidmar, he was killed by his son because of the murder intent that was instill by the ring.

I felt unease since I might turn my neighbour to a murderer if I were to remain in 'Valhalla'... if that were to happen, I wouldn't be able to forgive myself. If... if Brynhildr-sama were to be instill with the murder intention due to me... and hurt anyone with her own hand then.... I thought that...

"Hey, don't you look down on us, Sei."

In that moment—Loki shouted out in front of the timid me.

"It's true that your identity is Andvaranaut. But... you are different now! You are now Saehrimnir and also my partner!! Since this Loki had acknowledged you as a partner... then you should do away with those miserable thought!!"

"Lo...Loki..."

"I will not allow that either, Sei-san! You are different from when you were the ring that have no will! Since you are the boar Sei-san!! Now you have your own free will now!! I'm sure you are able to control your curse with that will of yours! I believe that... you will never lose to your curse!!"

“Brynhildr-sama...”

I also had the same thought. I wanted to trust them.

But that was just a prediction on the best scenario. It'd be too late if anything were to happen. Since... I had not confidence that I was able to control the curse...

“...Sei-san.”

At that moment, Brynhildr-sama looked toward me with those strong will eyed.

“Please tell me one more thing. Why were you able to know about Andvari plan in such clear detail?”

“That is... because Falsch entrusted his memory to me. By using the ‘harmony’ ability.”

“In another word, he betrayed Andvari whom is his creator?”

“... that is the true but...”

“Who caused that?”

“I”

The person who caused that... was me. That mean that this was not part of Andvari plan.

Brynhildr-sama reached out to my hand. There was no feeling of hesitation anymore even though she was scared of my curse just now.

“It might be true that it had went according to Andvari plan but you had already ruined his plan now! That’s why please be more confidence in yourselves! Please believe in yourselves! That is because you... had already become a person where everyone believe in!!”

Why... did I become so timid all of a sudden? I was still myself even after I figured out my true identity. Since there wasn’t a single part of me that had become different.

“... I had understood now, Brynhildr-sama. Thank you for your support as well, Loki. I will not lose nor will I give up. I will continue to try my best from now on

in—the Einherjars hall, ‘Valhalla’!”

That was right, I’d never change. No one could change me. I’d never fall for Andvari plan.

Hey, Falsch. I’m sorry but I’d not take the path that you had suggested to me.

That was because I was not Andvaranaut’s anymore now. I was different from you who was a fake now.

Since I was the genuine ‘Valhalla Dinner’ now.

Since I was recognized as...the brown boar, Saehrimnir—

=====

Okay, here are some quick notes:

_The boar and the ring has nothing to do with each other in Norse Myth, and the ring was an inspiration to make Lord of The Rings

_Andvaranaut plays an insignificant role in Norse myth, the ring only killed Sieg and Brynh as two well known person in Norse myth and then was lost forever

_Falsch means False, well, google it

_Lastly, god knows what cycle of Ragnarok this is!

Valhalla no Bangohan Volume 4 Epilogue

Epilogue

“Hey, can someone served the mashed potato! Since it’s piling up at the kitchen counter! Hey you! You don’t have to take your time on the salad dressing, since no one will eat it anyway! Ah, Sei-kun! After you had finish with that, can you help me move the pot with the finished soup to the trolley? Since my hands are full!”

“Yes, Chef Head!”

—the ‘Valhalla Kitchen’ before the dinner.

After we came back from the hidden cave, I entered the kitchen while putting aside Brynhildr-sama worry.

I was quite fatigue now which was exactly the thing that Brynhildr-sama was worried about since I had a battle with that Falsch just now.

But... I wanted to prove it as soon as possible. No matter who I became, my daily routine would never change.

“Um... Chef Head.”

“Hm...? What the matter, Sei-kun? Did you got burnt?”

“No, that’s not the matter... it’s a bit late but it seems that our name is quite similar.”

“Ha ha, well that is quite true. Since it’s Andhrímnir and Saehrimnir after all. It likes we are the immortal Hrimnir partner! Just joking.”

“Um... that is quite similar but it seems that the front part is also similar.”

“The front part? There is no similarity at all since it And and Sei right?”

No, it was actually the same... but it seemed it was not necessary for me to point that out purposely. Because of that I hate it even if I felt that this was fate.

Okay then, time to be serious now. I'd carry out the task that was given to me precisely since that who I was. Since I had given a task, it was time me for me to do my best to do it perfectly!

“Ah, Sei-kun, it's near sunset now since I will depend on you for the main dish.”

“...Yes.... I understood...”

Sigh, well, this was fine. Since that was my task.

Okay~, it was time for me to do my best to pass away~.

.....

...

...A few minutes after that. I was revived after jumping into the pot which proved that my daily routine was still the same. Since I was completely different from my disciple who was a masochist, I hoped that this suffering could be a bit less painful.

“Thank you for your hard work as the food ingredient, Sei-san. You look quite delicious as today main dish also!”

“Ah, Brynhildr-sama! Ah... it seems that everyone had also came!”

Brynhildr approached me after she saw me lying on the ground in the corner. It seemed that she was together with her sisters since they were behind of her.

“Ah, Sei-kun, it's fine so you can just stay where you are now. After all, it's quite tiring after being revived.”

Weisse forgave my slovenly appearance and patted my head gently when I was forcing myself to stand up. Ah, what a kind angel she was! But if she was the first one who did that then— “My... my first is being stolen again! Sei, is there anything else!? The thing that I am able to offer you first? So that I am able to be your first!?”

My first was it...? Gerhi-sama, it seemed that you had made quite a bold statement due to your excitement but were you really fine with that?

Well, it seemed that the person herself hadn't realize it so in order to protect her honor, I would ignore her.

"For god's sake, my nee-san can't keep her composure as usual.... Sei, it's better if you were to rest at the pantry instead of here."

"Ah, I'm sorry since I will be a hindrance here, Siegrune-sama."

"I didn't said that you a hindrance! There is a possibility that you might be stepped on by someone okay? That will make me... it won't make me worry at all! Since people will fell down if they step on you! That's why..."

Ah, what was this, this indescribable usual feeling? I felt so relief by it...

Then, while I was feeling at ease, Schwerte-sama suggest something disturbing.

"Sei-dono. I thought of this for quite some time but... wouldn't it be better if you become Ikusu disciple instead?"

"Eh? Why?"

"I feel like death is something... no, the feeling of pain is something she does not fear at all."

"Well, that is certainly true."

Since she was a masochist after all. In fact, I was glad on that fact. ...hm? That meant, were you telling me... that Schwerte-sama intended to awaken the masochist instinct of me!

"What do you think of that, since you might be able to master her technique?"

"I will pass... I might reconsider it after Schwerte-sama had mastered it first."

"Okay. I accept it if it will be able to help you. Then after I had mastered it, I will teach Sei-dono about it."

Ah, did I just make an outrageous suggestion? I prayed from the bottom of my heart that Schwerte-sama would remain the same after this.

“That’s right, Pork-chan, about the matter regarding the bra that I rejected earlier.”

“Ah! Um... Waltraute-sama! Let’s not talk about that here! Since the other staffs will overheard it...”

“Ah, is that so? Then let me say this now, I wanted to ask if you can become a pantsu~”

“Let’s stop with this conversation now!!”

You see, since there was a strong killing intent coming from the kitchen! I was pretty sure that I’d be torture before I was cooked tomorrow.

“Gosh, it seems that Sei is in a bind. Since he had promised to transform into my camisole after this. Isn’t that right? Sei.”

Helmwige-sama, I didn’t remember that I had made such a promise with you!! What was up with you, was this your revenge because I declined your request!?

“Sigh... It seems that everyone had become closer to Sei-kun before I know it... I am so jealous.”

“Eh? There is no need for you to be jealous at all, Grimgerde-sama. Since I also want to become more intimate with you. So please talk more with me from now on.”

“But... I’m not good at starting a conversation...”

“If that is the case, then I will talk to you first.”

“I will be surprise if you suddenly talk to me so it will be better if...”

It seemed that she didn’t want to get closer to me right? For sure.

“For God’s sake, it seems that Sei-shi doesn’t understand a women heart at all. Instead of word, a man should use his back to do the talking.”

As expected of Ortlinde-sama, that was a magnificent idea. Then. Let me try it right away.

“Sei-shi... didn’t anyone teach you that you must look at them when you are talking with someone?”

“That is impossible! If I were to look at her, I bet you will said ‘In the world of a cat, the signal of a fight is when both the eye meet each other.’”

“Argh... do think that you were able to predict that... I feel so ashamed now.”

Predicted was it.... I’d experience growth too. No, I might be able to get close to everyone if I did that. That would be great if that happened.

—After all that, all the Valkyrie sisters headed toward the pantry to prepare serving the mead. Brynhildr-sama was the only one left who looked toward me and told me while showing a gentle smile.

“As expected, everyone is being normal. If that is the case, then there is no effect from the curse right, Sei-san.”

“That’s right. Well, even though this is normal, there is still some people that I am bad with.”

“Fu fu, that is because Sei-san existence had become something that they are unable to ignore now.”

A goods news could be found in the midst of that refined laughter. I was overflowing with confidence since Brynhildr-sama had said it in that manner.

After we had a short laughter, Brynhildr-sama showed a stern look on her face.

“...Sei-san. Let keep your true identity a secret to everyone okay? The only one who know that will be Loki and me only. Together with Loki, I will be on a lookout for Andvari whereabouts during my mission.”

“Okay. I am fine with that. Since Andvari hates Odin-sama, who know swbat will happen if I didn’t act according to his plan. Moreover, he is not a person that we can ignore anymore.”

Brynhildr-sama gave a nod toward my word to show her agreement.

Then, once again with a gentle smile, she bowed and followed after her sister.

After everyone left—I was the only one who is outside of ‘Valhalla Kitchen’.

“...Haa...haa... damn it! Why...!”

Why did my chest hurt this much. As if I had stopped breathing for a long

period, my body had finally being overwhelm with the fatigue.

“The curse... the black sediment... is not disappearing.”

That was reflected in my eyes even though I was trying my best to act normal.

No matter how peaceful I wished for it, the curse of death was trying to escape from my control so that it could go out from my body. If I were to let it do that, I was sure that sediment would definitely had a bad effect to everyone here.

“I will not let you do as you please...! In my daily routine... in everyone life...!!”

This might be more reckless—than I thought.

What should... what should I do so that everyone can be happy?

“I had decided—I will control it. If I can’t do that...”

A feeble thought ran through my brain for a moment. Hey, it had even been a night after I decided to try my best. It was too soon for me to be timid.

“But... but what if. When I feel that it’s impossible, I will...”

—[As long as you don’t mix with other, your curse will have no effect. No one will be hurt as long as you are alone.]— When the time came... I’d use that as reference, Falsch.

The advice that you had gave me.

Fin

